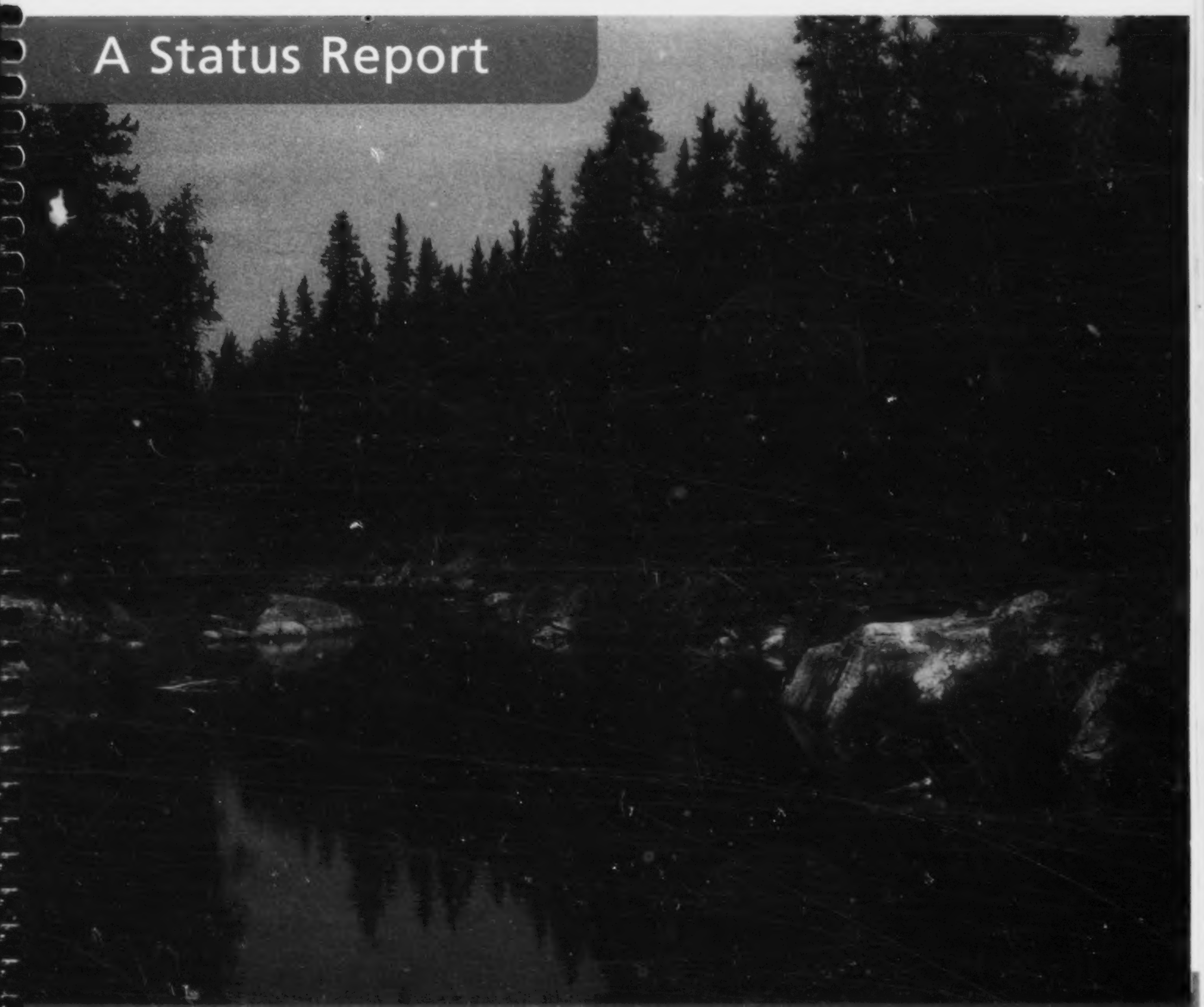
"Promises to Keep..."

Towards a Broad Area Plan for the East Side of Lake Winnipeg

A Status Report



Manitoba

"Promises to Keep..."

Towards a Broad Area Plan for the East Side of Lake Winnipeg

Legal Impact of the Status Report

The contents of this Status Report – the narrative, analysis, observations, and recommendations are presented to the Government of Manitoba in the spirit of good will and good faith. The Government of Manitoba is committed to improve the relationship between the people of the province and First Nation/Aboriginal peoples based on principles of mutual recognition, mutual respect, and mutual responsibility. Nothing in this Status Report shall be construed to restrict, compromise or fetter the ability of First Nations and Aboriginal communities and their members to fully enjoy the Aboriginal and Treaty Rights recognized and affirmed by the Canadian Constitution and the evolution of Canadian case law. The Government of Manitoba, in creating the East Side Planning Initiative, has affirmed that the content of this Status Report shall not be construed to alter, replace, or fetter the legal responsibility and obligation of the provincial government to engage in meaningful consultation and accommodation with respect to any and all issues identified in this report.

Manitoba

"Promises to Keep[1]..."

Towards a Broad Area Plan for the East Side of Lake Winnipeg

Dedicated to:

The future of the people
of the east side of Lake Winnipeg
and to the land which will continue to sustain them.

---

[1] The title of the status report is taken from the final stanza of the Robert Frost poem ***Stopping By Woods On A Snowy Evening***

> The woods are lovely, dark and deep.
> But I have promises to keep,
> And miles to go before I sleep,
> And miles to go before I sleep.

Letter of Transmittal

ESPI
Broad Area Planning

East Side Planning Initiative

Room 405 - 326 Broadway
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 0S5
204-945-8114 or 1-800-214-6497
204-948-2948 Fax
espi@gov.mb.ca

September 2004

The Honourable Stan Struthers
Minister of Conservation
Government of Manitoba
Room 330 Legislative Building
450 Broadway
Winnipeg, MB R3C 0V8

Dear Minister Struthers:

On behalf of the East Side Round Table and the First Nations Council, it gives us great pleasure to submit to you our status report on the development of a Broad Area Plan for the east side of Lake Winnipeg entitled *Promises to Keep*. For your convenience and reference, as well as for broader distribution, we are also pleased to provide you with a separate executive summary of the status report.

In presenting this report to you and your government, we wish to assure you that we have laboured long and hard to both gain the confidence and understand the preferences of the residents of the east side of Lake Winnipeg concerning the current and future land use of this magnificent area.

As our report will outline, there have been numerous meetings and discussions with interest groups and stakeholders, Northern Affairs and Métis communities and the leadership and residents of First Nations communities, the latter comprising over 96 per cent of the population of the east side of Lake Winnipeg. As the first prototype and flagship initiative emanating from the recommendations of the Consultation on Sustainable Development Implementation, this status report will affirm that the Government of Manitoba has embarked on a unique and promising venture - a venture that seeks to empower the residents of the east side of Lake Winnipeg and engage them in a process that increases their access and control over decisions that will affect the quality of their lives. On their behalf, we commend your government for initiating this most important dialogue.

The development of the Broad Area Plan has not been completed. Yet much has been accomplished in defining a sustainable land use plan for an area equivalent to one-eighth of the land mass of Manitoba. While this status report provides you with a measure of our progress, much remains to be done in our quest to protect the environment, assure sustainable development in the area and achieve certainty for investment and economic development ventures.

We believe that our preliminary observations and recommendations chart a precise and measurable course on the path to completing the Broad Area Plan and we strongly recommend that the Government of Manitoba stay the course through to its completion. The *Memorandum of Understanding* with First Nations communities and the promise of one with the Métis Nation residents on the east side of Lake Winnipeg, the extensive consultations with Northern Affairs communities, and the pending comprehensive dialogues with Manitoba's First Nations communities on the east side of Lake Winnipeg, will shape a Broad Area Plan based on thorough consultations and a sensitivity to the environment that is unparalleled in recent Manitoba history.

The recommendations contained in this report are based on extensive preliminary consultations with communities on the east side and the dedicated work of our colleagues on the East Side Round Table, the First Nations Council and the Advisory Committee. We are convinced that this East Side Planning Initiative will produce a Broad Area Plan that will not only serve the residents of the area and the interests of all Manitobans, but will also define the future of Broad Area Planning and sustainable development in Canada.

We commend this work to your attention and respectfully request that it be permitted to reach its natural and positive conclusion.

Respectfully yours,

Chief Phil Fontaine Chair East Side Planning Initiative	Elder Ed Wood Associate Chair East Side Planning Initiative

Acknowledgements

September 2004

The Honourable Stan Struthers
Minister of Conservation
Government of Manitoba
Room 330 Legislative Building
450 Broadway
Winnipeg, MB R3C 0V8

Dear Minister Struthers:

The preparation and submission of this status report, *Promises to Keep,* and the separate executive summary which accompanies it, is premised on the assumption that it is but an important waypoint on a path that will lead to Manitoba's first Broad Area Plan based on the sustainability principles identified in the *Consultation on Sustainable Development Implementation,* which your government has adopted as policy. The East Side Planning Initiative (ESPI) has begun a comprehensive and inclusive process of information sharing and gathering. The complexities of the many issues at hand require no less.

This status report, the contextual observations and many recommendations it contains, owes its genesis, first and foremost, to the many people resident on the east side of Lake Winnipeg who took the time to attend community meetings and express their concerns and ideas. This report, in thanks for their participation, is dedicated to them and their fellow citizens.

The East Side Round Table and the First Nations Council, as duly constituted and in working groups, have spent countless hours hearing of people's concerns, listening to presentations, sifting through forests of documents, reports and expert opinion, debating the issues and, finally, crafting this status report. That they were able to do so while respecting the diverse views and disparate interests of those around each table, is a testament to their dedication and commitment to this process. Thanks are also extended to the members of the East Side Advisory Committee who took the time to attend meetings, and furthermore, took advantage of the opportunity to submit observations and recommendations to the ESPI.

Appreciation is also extended to Phil Fontaine who retained his role as chair of the East Side Round Table and First Nations Council even after assuming the onerous role of National Chief of the Assembly of First Nations. A particular vote of thanks is given to associate chair Ed Wood who so often went above and beyond the call of duty in encouraging participation, supporting the goals of the process and providing his expertise, influence and credibility in developing a common agenda.

Our appreciation is also extended to community leaders, elders, and co-coordinators who facilitated and took an active part in assisting the ESPI process; to community residents who attended meetings, prepared thoughtful interventions and attended ESPI Open Houses; to the many presenters who appeared before the Round Table and the First Nations Council; to the numerous organizations and individuals who supported the preparation of the East Side Youth Conference, which we hope will materialize in the fall of this year.

Thanks are also offered to the minister and officials of Manitoba Conservation, as well as those departments and agencies of the provincial government that facilitated and supported the work of ESPI.

And finally, I would like to thank each member of the secretariat and the consultants who have supported our work. Their tireless pursuit of excellence and the professionalism and respectably demonstrated in supporting both the East Side Round Table and the First Nations Council in their pursuit of an independent course in crafting this report, have been very much appreciated. I know that I speak for both the Round Table and the First Nations Council in expressing appreciation for the efforts in preparing the numerous drafts and re-drafts of this report.

Without these contributions, the Round Table and the First Nations Council would not have achieved its impressive list of accomplishments in preparing *Promises to Keep.* As the title suggests, this status report is but a stop along the pathway that we must continue to walk to fully complete the Broad Area Plan for the east side of Lake Winnipeg and its accompanying protocols. In starting this important initiative, it is hoped that the Government of Manitoba will see it through to its fruition.

Peter André Globensky
Executive Coordinator
East Side Planning Initiative

1. Table of Contents

Letter of Transmittal 5
Acknowledgements 7
1. Table of Contents 9
2. Introduction to the Report 11
3. The Broad Area Plan: A Statement of Vision & Values 15
4. The East Side of Lake Winnipeg Broad Area Plan
  4.1 Genesis & History 19
  4.2 Mandate Summary 23
  4.3 Public Participation Process 27
5. Overarching Themes & Recommendations of General Application
  5.1 Solidifying an On-Going Process: Continuing the Creation of a Broad Area Plan & Possible Options – An Interim Planning Authority 31
  5.2 Building Positive Relationships with Aboriginal Peoples: Protocols of Agreement 39
  5.3 Initiatives to Protect the Integrity of the Boreal Environment 44
6. Priority Issues & Recommendations
  6.1 Working Groups: Constructing the Observations & Recommendations 53
  6.2 Aboriginal and Community Development 55
  6.3 Forest Resources Issues 57
  6.4 Transportation Issues 61
  6.5 Tourism and Recreation Issues 68
  6.6 Hydro Transmission Corridor Issues 70
  6.7 Mining Issues 74
  6.8 Additional Significant Issues 76
7. Conclusion
  The Path Forward: Challenges & Opportunities 79

1. Table of Contents (cont'd)

8. Appendices tab

8.1 Reference Maps 85 1
8.2 Public Participation Process 87 2
8.3 Community & Stakeholder Submissions 89 3
8.4 Community Reports 91 4
8.5 Community Facilitation Reports 93 5
8.6 Reports of Meetings with Elders 95 6
8.7 Memorandum of Understanding 97 7
8.8 ESPI Participants 99 8
8.9 Reference Appendices & Locations of Availability 101 9
Glossary 103

List of Maps and Figures

First Nations & Northern Communities Map 13
Public Participation Process 29

2. Introduction to the Report

Links: The Consultation on Sustainable Development Implementation & The East Side Planning Initiative

The East Side Planning Initiative was born out of the Consultation on Sustainable Development Implementation (COSDI) that was undertaken between the fall of 1997 and the spring of 1999. The multi-stakeholder, consensus-based process produced a report that was adopted by the Government of Manitoba in October 2000. The report advocates an environmental and resource management decision process that is sustained by effective planning on a large area basis.

The COSDI report outlines the basic framework for such a planning process. The plan is to be broad in scope and fully formed within the principles of sustainable development. There should be a planning advisory committee largely made up of "a cross section of knowledgeable persons, primarily from the area concerned, to develop the plan," and the committee should be supported, staffed and funded by the government. The committee should facilitate a broad consultation process to ensure opportunity for input from all interested parties. The COSDI report also made recommendations regarding openness and transparency, the need for relevant information to be readily available on a timely basis, the use of traditional ecological knowledge (TEK), the development of protocols to guide consultation with Aboriginal peoples, and the development and use of capacity building mechanisms to enable meaningful public participation.

The East Side Planning Initiative (ESPI) is the first large area planning exercise since the adoption of the COSDI report. It is a complex area, requiring a complex process. It covers a large geographic area housing many diverse and disparate interests. Although its population is largely situated in 16 First Nations communities, each with its own aspirations, there is a significant interest in the area by other Manitobans. It represents to some an area of pristine beauty and ecological integrity and, to others, exciting economic

East Side
Planning Initiative

105-01848/

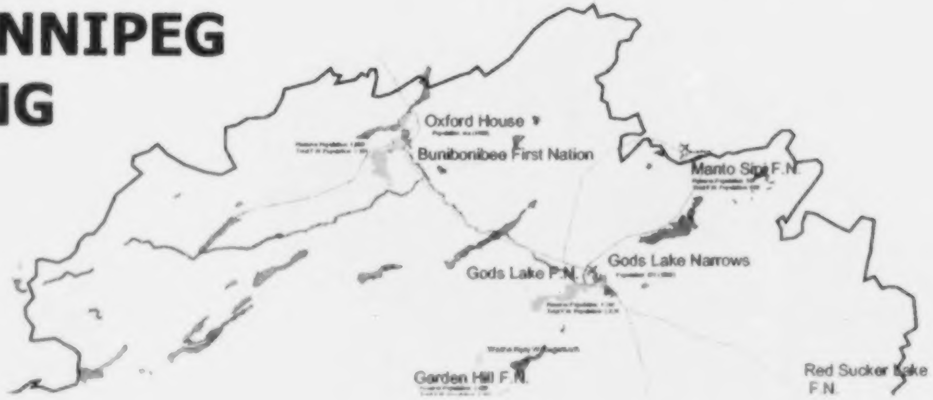
development potential. Some see an urgent need for road access to communities while others see that same access as a threat to the natural environment.

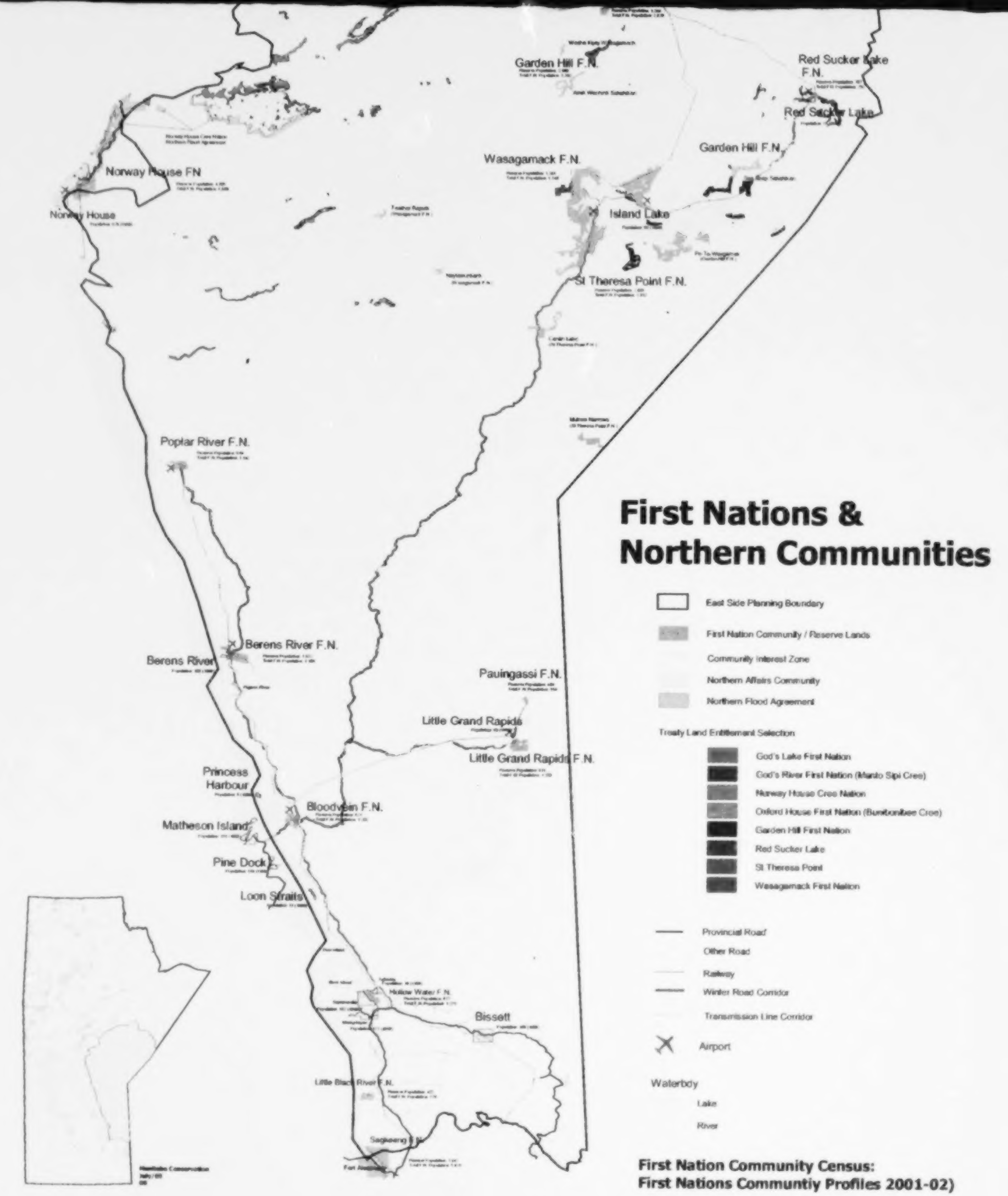
To address this mix of aspirations, and remain consistent with the COSDI philosophy, the ESPI has undertaken the task of involving local residents in the details of the planning for the future of their area. It has respected both science and traditional ecological knowledge. It has provided funding and staff to facilitate and support the process. It has actively reached beyond the communities for input into the process. It has established networks to make information accessible to all Manitobans. Just as importantly, it has taken on the responsibility of developing Protocols of Agreement to guide future consultations with First Nations and with the Métis Nation residents on the east side of Lake Winnipeg.

There is much we can learn from this process. There have been successes and there have been failures. If attempted again, there are things that would be repeated and things that would be changed. But overall, the process has succeeded in bringing together many diverse interests that would otherwise not have merged at all. The realization of the vision of COSDI has been significantly advanced in the East Side Planning Initiative. Certainly there is more to do and more to learn. But, Manitoba will be forever enriched by this process, as a large and important area of our province becomes the focus of rational and careful management. Let this process be a model to build on and improve as Manitoba's regions consider their place in the future.

The report contains a list of appendices, some of which are appended to the main report. The remaining appendices identified in the report are located in all Manitoba Public Registry offices. In addition to this full report, an executive summary is available, providing a detailed synopsis of the report's contents. The executive summary and the full report will be available to the public in print, electronic and CD versions and will be posted on the website. Copies of all reference documents will be made available to the council offices of all east side communities and, as noted above, at all Manitoba registry offices. However, it is important to note that regardless of its current content and the format for distribution, *Promises to Keep* remains, first and foremost, a status report and, as such, the content and recommendations require further acceptance and validation by east side of Lake Winnipeg communities.

EAST SIDE
LAKE WINNIPEG
PLANNING
AREA


Oxford House
Bunibonibee First Nation
Manto Sipi F.N.
Gods Lake Narrows
Gods Lake F.N.
Garden Hill F.N.
Red Sucker Lake F.N.



First Nations & Northern Communities

East Side Planning Boundary
First Nation Community / Reserve Lands
Community Interest Zone
Northern Affairs Community
Northern Flood Agreement
Treaty Land Entitlement Selection
God's Lake First Nation
God's River First Nation (Manto Sipi Cree)
Norway House Cree Nation
Oxford House First Nation (Bunibonibee Cree)
Garden Hill First Nation
Red Sucker Lake
St Theresa Point
Wasagamack First Nation
Provincial Road
Other Road
Railway
Winter Road Corridor
Transmission Line Corridor
Airport
Waterbdy
Lake
River
Garden Hill F.N.
Red Sucker Lake F.N.
Red Sucker Lake
Garden Hill F.N.
Wasagamack F.N.
Norway House FN
Norway House
Island Lake
St Theresa Point F.N.
Poplar River F.N.
Berens River F.N.
Berens River
Pauingassi F.N.
Little Grand Rapids
Little Grand Rapids F.N.
Princess Harbour
Bloodvein F.N.
Matheson Island
Pine Dock
Loon Straits
Hollow Water F.N.
Bissett
Little Black River F.N.
Sagkeeng F.N.
Fort Alexander
Manitoba Conservation

First Nation Community Census:
First Nations Communtiy Profiles 2001-02)

Northern Community Census:
Northern Community Profiles 1996 Census

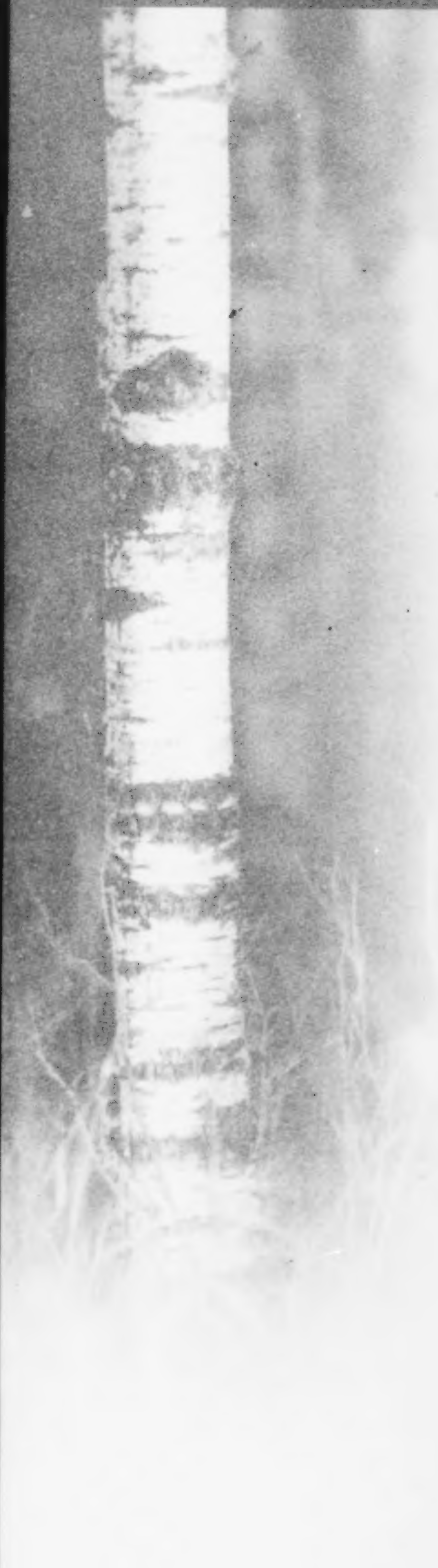
3. The Broad Area Plan: A Statement of Vision and Values

The area of eastern Manitoba contained within the boundaries of the East Side of Lake Winnipeg Broad Area Plan is one of unparalleled beauty and rugged fragility. It is a land defined by the repeated advance and retreat of glaciers where bedrock shield and thousands of lakes have shaped the habits and character of its inhabitants for millenniums. From the traditional lands of Bunibonibee First Nation in the north to the riparian perimeter of the Winnipeg River in the south, it is some 82,000 square kilometres in area. Thirty-six thousand residents living in 34 communities inhabit the east side, and nearly 96 per cent of that population is First Nations peoples. The geography is part of the largest eco-zone in Canada (Boreal Shield) and contains the fourth largest, contiguous boreal forest in the world. Despite its craggy and foreboding landscape, it is an area teeming in natural resources and enjoys a significant and healthy biodiversity.

As any of its residents who live there will tell you, it is a special place, deserving of special measures to ensure that the environment is protected and all development is sustainable.

The Consultation on Sustainable Development Implementation, or COSDI report, provided Manitobans with a unique and timely vision of the future of sustainable resource use and conservation in Manitoba. Accepted in its entirety in 2000 by the current provincial government, the report is the genesis of the Broad Area Plan for the east side of Lake Winnipeg. COSDI's vision for Manitobans is that they work together:

> *To develop an integrated framework for large area and municipal planning, significant resource allocations and environmental management decisions to ensure sustainable development in Manitoba.*
>
> *Consultation on Sustainable Development Implementation – 1999*



A Vision for the Broad Area Plan

The East Side Planning Initiative (ESPI) seeks to put into practice the vision articulated in COSDI. In doing so, it will create an extension of that vision and chart a new course for the future of land use on the east side of Lake Winnipeg. It is a vision that is based on a number of fundamental principles, first and foremost among them being an innovative approach to planning, grounded on the premise that the land is and must continue to be protected.

It is a vision which:

- equates the importance of human development with the requirement for a wise and sustainable stewardship of the land;
- regards the east side as a protected landscape in which economic development activities are permitted if it is agreed that they are sustainable and benefit local communities;
- believes human development must be grounded on integrated and coordinated planning that honours the social integrity of communities and the natural integrity of the environment;
- commits to planning for the sustainability of the ecosystem, where our human interactions with it must maintain or restore ecological integrity and not cause it to deteriorate;
- understands there are environmental thresholds for all human activity;
- recognizes the rights of the area's inhabitants to have access to services and necessities that will improve the quality of their lives;
- invites Manitobans to steward and value all the resources that may be found there – resources that include the cultural uniqueness of those who live there and the natural resources that have defined and contributed so significantly to our economy; and
- embraces the immeasurable value to our spiritual and psychological well-being that is provided by a landscape of animals, forests, water, air, soil and rock, all of which comprise the natural capital of the area. This landscape has contributed to the definition of our character and identity as Aboriginal peoples, Manitobans and Canadians.

It is also a vision that magnifies the critical importance of scale. As COSDI correctly suggests:

> *(Broad Area or Watershed Plans) provide the vehicle to assemble information/science respecting the ability of the environment to sustain and absorb, and rebound from the impacts of human activity, to know the threshold limits of the environment and natural resources. Conducting studies and developing sustainable development plans on the basis of natural boundaries such as watersheds or eco-systems will help understand the environmental and physical restraints within which economic, social and cultural*

◆

development, or the protection and enhancement of the natural environment and human health are allowed to occur.

Consultation on Sustainable Development Implementation – 1999

Ultimately, the Broad Area Plan for the east side of Lake Winnipeg envisions a different social contract. It is between those who inhabit the area and those who wish to use and exploit the resources found there; between those who work within the landscape, and the environment or natural landscape that harbours and yields the resources sought.

It is also a contract among all Manitobans. This includes the residents of the east side and their governments, where the latter are relied upon to protect this enduring and endearing landscape for future generations. This social contract recognizes the paramount importance of the right to human development in all its dimensions but not at the cost of diminishing the environment that sustains us all.

Values Sustaining the Broad Area Plan

There are a number of fundamental and important values that surround the Broad Area Plan and give it integrity. In addition to the development/conservation ethic defined above, it is critical that the interests and desires of those who live on the east side of Lake Winnipeg be incorporated into the fabric of the plan. This will help in striving to reconcile substantial differences. The plan must incorporate an ongoing mechanism that will provide for meaningful public participation in its further development and governance. This mechanism must also provide for the implementation, monitoring, evaluation and renewal of the plan on a systematic and regular basis. As such, the Broad Area Plan creates the framework for the preparation of more detailed regional land-use plans and the full integration of community plans.

"Due to the language barrier and infrequency of communication between the two cultures, it is difficult to communicate and resolve local issues and concerns. There is a need to work closer together..."

(East Side Resident)

The Broad Area Plan recognizes the enormous influence of the area's cultural landscape. It will honour the significant historical relationship extant between the land and its first inhabitants. ESPI will recognize, affirm and comply with Aboriginal rights and treaty obligations. It will develop and incorporate an inclusive and progressive memorandum of understanding and protocols of agreement that recognize the importance of the consultative process, as well as the nature of the government-to-government relationship, essential to the definition of new approaches to traditional land use and possible resource sharing.

The Broad Area Plan places an exceptional value on the importance of traditional ecological knowledge and sound science in developing a comprehensive land-use planning information database. This database must be used to both guide and support all major resource and land-use decisions in the plan. Without the data, an understanding of the threshold limits in the environment cannot be achieved. In the absence of such, the "precautionary principle" will become the automatic default mechanism. In other words, in the absence of adequate information about natural resources or threshold limits, decision-making will be on the side of caution. Planning precedes development; therefore, planning must be based on verifiable and comprehensive knowledge. From a data perspective, development will not be recommended on east side lands designated "terra incognita or lands unknown". Consequently, without data available to support human activity or development, it is not in our best interests, nor that of the environment, to proceed.

Once completed, the East Side of Lake Winnipeg Broad Area Plan will provide strategic advice and direction to east side communities, government departments and agencies, and everyone engaged, or thinking of engaging, in commercial and recreational activities in the area. The plan will not so much be a prescription, but more of a template. The recommendations contained within the plan – the principles, codes of practice and land-use designations – can be incorporated into community- based planning models. The Broad Area Plan recognizes that communities have "zones of activities and influence".

The East Side Round Table and the East Side First Nations Council are convinced that the Broad Area Plan for the east side of Lake Winnipeg must meet the needs of communities while respecting the integrity of the environment which sustains and surrounds them.

It is with this comprehensive and collective vision, and upon these values, that the Broad Area Plan for the east side of Lake Winnipeg will be developed.

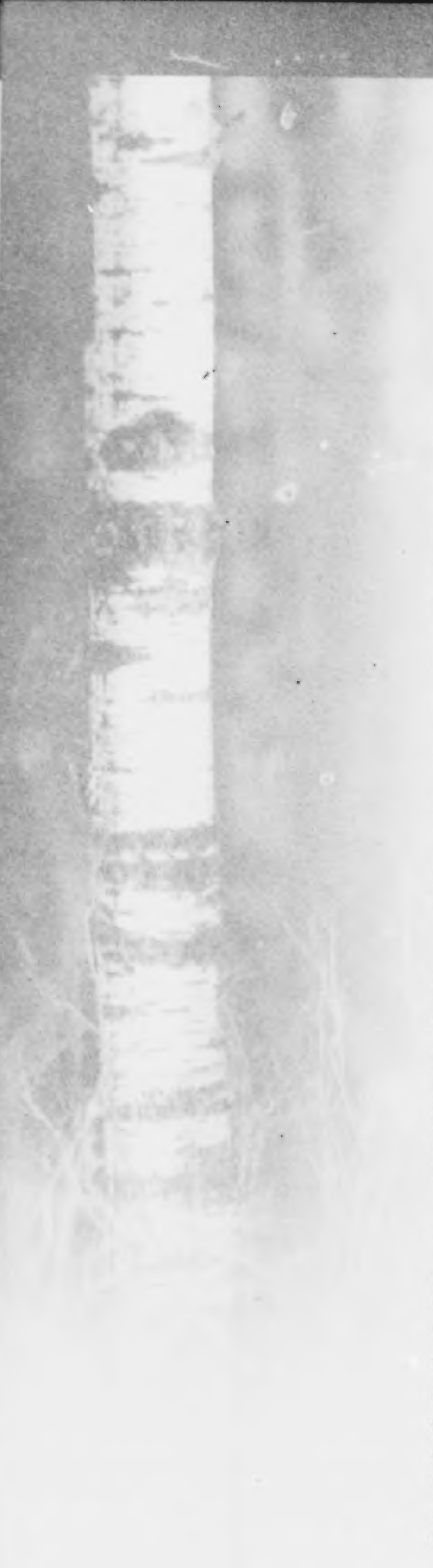
4. The East Side of Lake Winnipeg Broad Area Plan

4.1 Genesis and History

In July 2000, the Government of Manitoba announced its acceptance of the *Consultation On Sustainable Development Implementation (COSDI) Report*. The report recommended that the implementation of sustainable development include the creation of Broad Area Plans (BAP) across the province. Broad Area Planning is defined as integrated and co-coordinated planning that is based on the sustainability of the ecosystem. BAPs ensure future land, resource and development decisions address the environmental, social, health, cultural and economic needs of the public, local communities, First Nations and various stakeholders and interest groups. The *COSDI Report* also recommended an inclusive public process and guidelines for meaningful consultation with First Nations and Aboriginal communities towards the development of a province-wide protocol on land and resource decision-making.

On August 9, 2000, Conservation Minister, Oscar Lathlin, announced the government would initiate Broad Area Planning on the east side of Lake Winnipeg as a pilot for Broad Area Planning across the province. This region was chosen for two primary reasons.

1. The east side of Lake Winnipeg is a unique region of the province because it contains a vast expanse of undeveloped, contiguous, boreal forest. The need for sustainable planning in this area has been reinforced by the recent *Manitoba Climate Change Task Force Report*. This report stated that Manitoba is at risk of losing both the southern and northern edges of the boreal forest to climate change.
2. The east side of Lake Winnipeg is a unique region with communities that do not have access to the transportation networks and economic opportunities that most Manitobans take for granted. The need for planning in this regard has also been reinforced by the *Climate Change*



Task Force Report that highlighted the dramatic effects of climate change on winter road and food distribution systems for communities in this, and other, remote and northern regions.

The objective of the east side planning process is to bring together local communities, First Nations and Aboriginal communities, and industry and environmental organizations to develop a vision for land and resource use in the area that respects both the value of the boreal forest and the needs of local communities. It is expected that the east side process will result in a blueprint for the area that will address protected areas, traditional activities, transportation needs and economic development. It is also expected that the East Side Planning Initiative might result in recommendations on further study or consultation that may be needed following the submission of the Broad Area Plan.

The East Side Lake Winnipeg BAP initiative has been divided into two phases: preliminary discussions, and plan preparation and adoption.

Phase I – Preliminary Discussions

After the east side initiative was announced, a three-member government review panel was established to discuss elements of the initiative with First Nations, local communities, the public, industry, non-government organizations and others interested in the future of the area. These elements included the boundaries for the planning area; the steps and timing for the planning process; major issues and options for the area; and the establishment of an East Side Round Table and larger stakeholder advisory committees.

The panel attended meetings with First Nations communities, environmental and recreational organizations, and industry, and provided briefings to Manitoba Hydro and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources. A final report was released to the public through Manitoba Conservation's Public Registry Network and was placed on the East Side Planning Initiative website at: ***www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/eastsideplan***.

Phase II – The Preparation of the Broad Area Plan

In March, 2002, the East Side Round Table (ESRT) first assembled to begin the task of developing the BAP for the east side of Lake Winnipeg. The Round Table consisted of 20 members representing local First Nations communities, the Manitoba Métis Federation, northern communities drawn from the Northern Association of Community Council, the forestry, trapping and mining sectors, and non-government social, recreational and environmental organizations. Phil Fontaine, who was Chief Commissioner of the Indian Claims Commission at the time and is currently the National Chief of the Assembly of First Nations, was appointed chairperson. The Right Honourable Edward Schreyer was appointed as a special advisor.

To assist the Round Table in preparing the BAP, an East Side Advisory Committee (ESAC) and First Nations Council (FNC) were also assembled. The ESAC was made up of one representative from each of the several organizations with interests in the area, including local government, industry and environmental groups. The FNC was made up of one representative from each of the 16 First Nations communities on the east side of Lake Winnipeg. The chairperson for the Round Table also chaired the FNC and ESAC. While initially seen as being in an advisory capacity role, the FNC quickly asserted its place alongside the ESRT.

An Interdepartmental Working Group (IWG) was also formed to act as in-house consultants to the ESRT. The IWG is comprised of provincial and federal government staff representing their respective departments and branches. Manitoba Conservation chaired the IWG. An East Side Planning Secretariat of eight people was established to support the policy, administrative and logistical requirements of the ESRT, FNC and the ESAC.

Early meetings of the ESRT in 2002 focused on matters such as meeting rules-of-order, administrative items like budgets and expenses, and information distribution. One meeting was devoted to discussing and finalizing the *Round Table Terms of Reference,* which was published in November 2002. Following these initial meetings, the ESRT shifted its focus to developing an understanding of what a BAP might entail and familiarizing itself with the variety of information and numerous initiatives, planned and underway, in the study area. Several meetings involved presentations only. Presentations heard included: the COSDI Report, Treaty and Aboriginal Rights, British Columbia and Ontario's experience in Broad Area Planning, Manitoba's Protected Areas Initiative including Enduring Features and GAP analysis, transportation development, the proposed Tembec/FNLP forestry initiative partnership, the Manitoba Hydro Bi-pole III initiative and public consultation strategy, mineral potential and amendments to the Mines and Minerals Act, boreal forest ecology, tourism potential, the Northern Development Strategy, the Pikangikum Accord, the current GIS database, co-management initiatives, Manitoba government natural resources information including updates on the Manigotagan Park Reserve, Forestry Branch activities, wild rice, wildlife, trapping and the Manitoba Water Strategy.

> ***"There are communities like ourselves all over the country who have long looked after lands not as owners, but as caretakers of this great land. This is how we were taught as Native people; land is not something you own, land is a gift that you use, to live on it, to protect it and look after it. That principle was used by our people and continues to be used today."***
>
> (Poplar River community member
> Poplar River – Website)

On July 24, 2002, the Round Table was formally established by an Order in Council and the FNC and ESAC were introduced to the planning process, as well as their roles in the development of the BAP. On that same date, a presentation was heard from the Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC), an inter-tribal, co-management agency committed to the implementation of off-reservation treaty rights on behalf of its eleven Ojibway member tribes from Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota. This presentation was very well received and seen by many as a model worth striving for by First Nations communities on the east side of Lake Winnipeg.

Early in 2003, the focus of the ESRT shifted towards receiving community input into the development of the BAP, and on February 6, the secretariat met with the FNC to present a proposed process and timelines. The First Nations Council was asked to develop and present their positions/strategies on community consultation to the East Side Round Table, after which the ESAC was asked the same. In April, the first information meeting on the East Side Planning Initiative was held in the First Nations community of Hollow Water.

In July 2003, the *First Nations Council Terms of Reference* was published. Also during that month, Phil Fontaine was elected as National Chief of the Assembly of First Nations. At an August meeting, the ESRT unanimously resolved to retain Mr. Fontaine in his capacity as chair of the ESRT, FNC and attendant committees, so that he might continue to guide ESPI.

Community contacts from First Nations and Northern Affairs communities, and from the Manitoba Métis Federation, were identified to undertake logistics of community meetings (e.g., advertising, booking facilities, providing refreshments, etc.) and in mid-September 2003, the first round of community visits began.

The objectives of the community visits were to present information on ESPI; to elicit community feedback representative of community sectors that included women, youth and Elders regarding conservation, environmental issues, etc.; and to exchange information to create greater awareness regarding the east side plan. The purpose and objectives of ESPI were produced on video in English, Cree, Ojibway and Oji-Cree to assist in communicating consistent information to communities and organizations. The *Phase I Executive Summary Report* was also produced in these languages for distribution at community meetings.

In November 2003, members of the Round Table and the First Nations Council, with the assistance of members of the Secretariat began a process that would engage all east side First Nations, Northern Affairs and Métis communities in over 80 meetings. Comments from the community visits were presented in two documents: "What We Heard By Community" and "What We Heard By Issue" (see Appendices). Both documents were deposited in the public registry and are available on the ESPI website at: ***www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/eastsideplan***

At a joint meeting of Elders, the FNC and ESRT in December 2003, Ed Wood, an Elder from St. Theresa Point First Nation, was appointed as the associate chair. The ESRT then focused attention on preparing draft recommendations for the BAP. With the knowledge that a final plan was not possible to achieve within the time frame specified by government, the ESRT decided to compile a status report based on the observations, submissions and recommendations gathered to date. As a result of this, the need for an on-going mechanism was seen as critical (see 5.1 – Solidifying an On-Going Process: Continuing the Creation of a Broad Area Plan & Possible Options – An Interim Planning Authority).

The majority of recommendations in this report are drawn from the issues identified during the community visits and summarized in the "What We Heard" documents. For a complete description of the methodology used in the preparation of recommendations, see 6.1 Working Groups: Constructing the Observations & Recommendations.

Parallel to this process, the First Nations Council initiated negotiations with the Government of Manitoba to strike a *Memorandum of Understanding* committing First Nations governments on the east side of Lake Winnipeg and the Government of Manitoba to negotiate *Protocols of Agreement* that would become a central component of the Broad Area Plan. The Government of Manitoba committed to a similar process for the Métis Nation resident on the east side of Lake Winnipeg.

4.2 Mandate Summary

The *East Side Lake Winnipeg Broad Area Planning Initiative – Phase I Final Report* makes recommendations towards the development of a Broad Area Plan under the following headings: The Planning Area; Advisory Bodies – Roles and Responsibilities; Research Needs; The Planning Process; and Issues and Opportunities. While many of the recommendations contained in the Phase I Report are addressed in this status report, much work remains to finalize the Broad Area Plan, including completion of the public participation process.

> ***"People are in favour of development but we also care about the environment. We live here and do not want to see the environment destroyed."***
>
> (East Side Resident)

The mandate provided by the Minister of Conservation to the East Side Round Table (ESRT) and the First Nations Council (FNC) is as follows:

Treaty and Aboriginal Rights:

The east side plan recognize, affirm and be in compliance with treaty obligations and Aboriginal rights and be consistent with the consultation/protocol guideline recommendations of the COSDI Report respecting First Nations and Aboriginal peoples.

Treaty and Aboriginal Rights are addressed in Chapter 5.2 – Building Positive Relationships with Aboriginal Peoples: *Protocols of Agreement*. While a memorandum of understanding has been completed, the development of the protocol is an ongoing process.

Aboriginal and Community Development:

The east side Round Table review the status of community planning in the planning area and provide advice on ways and means to meet the needs for community plans.

The east side Round Table provide advice on the relationship that should be established between the Broad Area Plan and local community plans and how

they may be integrated into the large area plan for the east side of Lake Winnipeg.

Chapter 6.2 – Aboriginal and Community Development addresses and expands upon this mandate.

Traditional Activities:

The east side round table include traditional ecological knowledge and address traditional activities within the planning area.

Traditional activities are addressed throughout the report. Information on traditional ecological knowledge, essential in the development of the BAP, needs to be received from communities and is therefore part of the ongoing process.

Protected Areas:

Commitments to protected areas should be honoured through the established process.

Protected areas are addressed in Chapter 5.3 – Initiatives to Protect the Integrity of the Boreal Environment.

Consultations on Land and Resource Allocations:

The east side round table provide advice on mechanisms for ensuring meaningful First Nation, Aboriginal, local public and community consultations in future land and resource allocations, consistent with the consultation/protocol guideline recommendations of the COSDI Report.

Consultations on land and resource allocations are addressed in Chapter 5.1 – Solidifying an Ongoing Process: Continuing the Creation of a Broad Area Plan & Possible Options – An Interim Planning Authority.

Existing Land Uses and New Development Proposals:

Existing land uses including forest tenure and protected areas designation shall continue. Crown land and resource development and allocation requests which have a minor land use or environmental effect would be processed and approved or declined as per normal government administrative procedures. Examples include: cottage lots, lodge outcamps, trapping cabins, and fishing and hunting licenses. Upon approval of the plan, allocations and land uses would then be administered in compliance with the plan.

This mandate is addressed in various places in the report and specifically in Chapter 5.1.

Forest Resources:

The east side round table provide advice on protecting the values of the boreal forest, its sustainability, and sustainable use including, but not limited to:

- *maintaining biological diversity and ecological functions;*
- *role in carbon storage;*
- *non-timber forest products;*
- *ecotourism; and*
- *sustainable forest harvesting activities.*

The province not permit any major new timber allocation beyond the annual allowable cut, as determined by Manitoba Conservation within Forest Management License #1 and historical allocation levels in Integrated Wood Supply Area #1, subject to annual public review and pending completion of the Broad Area Plan.

Chapter 6.3 – Forest Resources Issues addresses this mandate.

Transportation Issues:

The east side round table provide advice and input on the options (e.g., north-south versus east-west route alternatives) in the east side transportation network study to be conducted by Manitoba Transportation and Government Services. Manitoba Transportation and Government Services work with the east side planning Secretariat and directly with the east side round table to ensure the effective and efficient co-ordination of planning and communication activities in the planning area.

The east side round table provide advice on the proposed transportation assessment work plan of Manitoba Transportation and Government Services which will include the planning, consultation, upgrading and construction of the road to the Bloodvein community.

Chapter 6.4 – Transportation Issues addresses this mandate.

Tourism and Recreation:

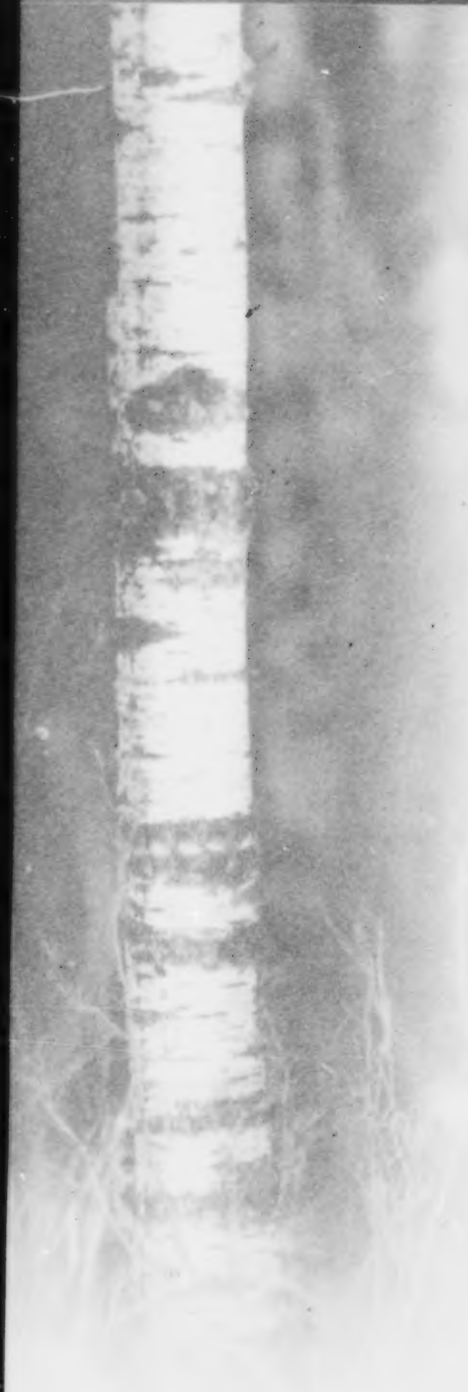
The east side round table consider and address the opportunities and acceptability of ecotourism and tourist development in the planning area.

Chapter 6.5 – Tourism and Recreation Issues addresses this mandate.

Hydro Issues:

As part of the planning process, Manitoba Hydro co-ordinate any future transmission line communications and public consultation activities with the east side round table. The east side round table provide regional guidance relative to Manitoba Hydro in regards to future electrical transmission facilities

> ***"The term 'Climate Change' refers to long-term change in the Earth's climate and the increased variability of our daily weather patterns. Change can arise from both natural and human factors which none-the-less, influence the balance of energy we receive from the Sun."***
>
> (Province of Manitoba – Energy, Science and Technology)



within the planning area. Manitoba Hydro work with the East Side Planning Initiative Secretariat and, directly, with the East Side Round Table to ensure the effective and efficient co-ordination of planning and communication activities in the planning area.

Chapter 6.6 – Hydro Transmission Corridor Issues addresses this mandate.

Mining Issues:

The east side round table consider the potential for mineral development and its acceptability within the various land use zones that may be designated in the planning area.

Mining exploration and development in the planning area continue as per existing established public consultation requirements, environmental review and licensing requirements and other required reviews and permitting processes and procedures.

Chapter 6.7 – Mining Issues addresses this mandate.

Other Issues:

The government should seek the advice of the round table on any significant issue which might arise during the course of the planning process.

Chapter 6.8 – Additional Significant Issues addresses this mandate.

Minimum Plan Components:

The components of the east side plan include the following components, at minimum:

A vision for the planning area; goals and objectives based on the needs of the area; ecosystem, land use and resource management principles and/or codes of practice; a land use zone map with policies and/or guidelines for each zone; procedures for the regular review and amendment of the approved plan; and a glossary of significant resource allocations, licenses, permits and other allocations and the issuing body.

With respect to the "planning area", the recommendation that its boundary be defined by watershed boundaries has been accepted with the exception of the inclusion of Black Island into the final maps. In ongoing deliberations, the boundary may require further modification as a result of formal commitments to First Nations that they will be involved in decisions affecting their traditional territories.

An East Side Round Table, East Side First Nations Council, East Side Advisory Committee, Interdepartmental Working Group and East Side Secretariat were established as recommended in the section: Advisory Bodies – Roles and Responsibilities.

With respect to the section entitled "Research Needs", a list of information, reports, data bases and maps with existing environmental, biological diversity, social, economic, resource, land use, tenure, government commitments, biophysical, heritage, etc., is being compiled . This information has been made available to the ESRT and FNC as it has been collected for their deliberations and included in the public registry. While most components have been incorporated into the status report, the development of the Broad Area Plan remains a work-in-progress. The land use zone map, and procedures to address the regular review and amendment of the approved plan, will be components of the final plan.

4.3 Public Participation Process

In launching the East Side Planning Initiative, the government committed to a public participation process to gather the views of residents of the east side of Lake Winnipeg, stakeholders and all Manitobans. Encapsulating the conceptual approach, then Minister of Conservation, the Honourable Oscar Lathlin, stated that the government's objective *"has been to establish a process, in collaboration with the public, local communities, industry and First Nations, that ensures comprehensive public involvement in the wide area planning process, ...as we work to develop a consensus among these interests with a common vision for land and resource use now and in the future."*

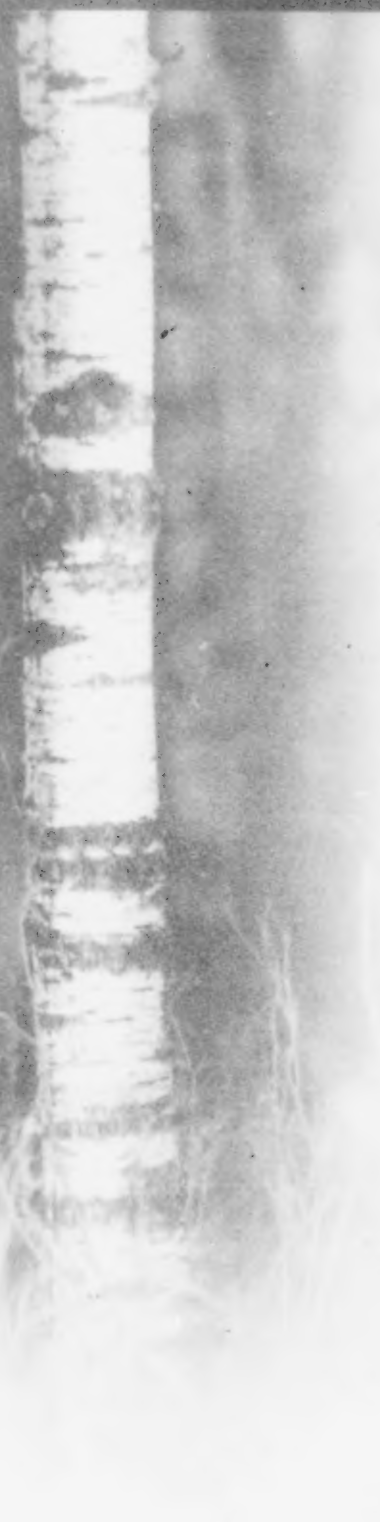
"That sustainable development processes recognize the importance of the culture, knowledge, traditions, cultural and spiritual values of Aboriginal peoples."

(Recommendation: **Consultation on Sustainable Development Implementation – 1999**)

A common theme throughout this status report is how the planning area, comprising approximately one-eighth of the land mass of the province, is remarkably rich in cultural and natural resources – resources that have sustained the inhabitants of the area for thousands of years. It is also part of one of the world's largest remaining boreal forest environments. The future of this important and delicate ecosystem will be determined by the principles of wise stewardship and sustainable resource management that are established within the Broad Area Plan. It is why the government called for comprehensive public engagement in charting a future for this resource-rich and ecologically significant environment.

Building a public participation process with limited resources and a tight time frame has been no easy task. Just as one cannot push a river, neither can we place hurried and artificial deadlines on a process that is both organic and ongoing. Should the time not be available to do it right, it will certainly not be available to do it over. Considering the legal challenges that have been successfully argued before the highest courts in the land, it is incumbent on the Government of Manitoba, and in the best interests of all of its citizens, to ensure that public, transparent, factual and accountable processes of information sharing and consultation be conducted as part of the process of defining a Broad Area Plan for the east side of Lake Winnipeg.

The origins of this approach lie in the fundamental conviction that people have an inherent right to be engaged in decision-making processes that affect



the quality of their lives. While much remains to be completed in this process, it is clearly evident that all participants have committed themselves to as rigorous and thorough a public process as resources will permit.

In order to shepherd the creation of the plan, the Government of Manitoba initiated the process by establishing five mechanisms or structures to help in developing, and channelling public input into the evolution of the Broad Area Plan.

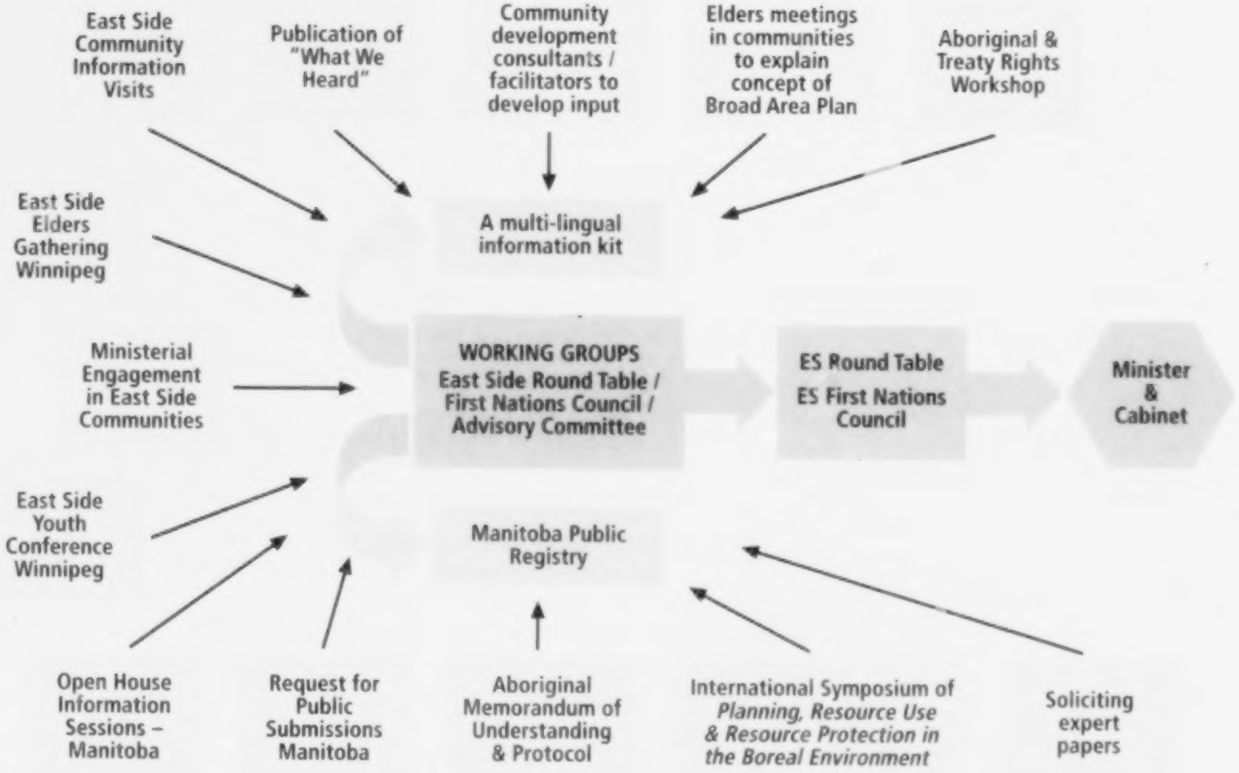
The East Side Round Table and the East Side First Nations Council have been charged with the responsibility of developing all components of the plan. These two deliberative bodies have been assisted by a 52-member East Side Advisory Committee representing community, stakeholder and sectoral interests. In addition, a federal-provincial interdepartmental committee was formed to support the process but has met with only marginal success.

In the onerous process of sifting, sorting and considering significant amounts of scientific, technical data and community-based information, and for the purposes of constructing the interim recommendations found within the report, five working groups were established to advance the preliminary preparation of the Broad Area Plan.

In the preparation of preliminary recommendations for the Government of Manitoba on the general content of the Broad Area Plan, and some of the more important processes that must now be pursued (the *Protocols of Agreement* with Aboriginal Peoples), the East Side Round Table and the First Nations Council committed themselves to an extensive and comprehensive public consultation process focused on the following activities:

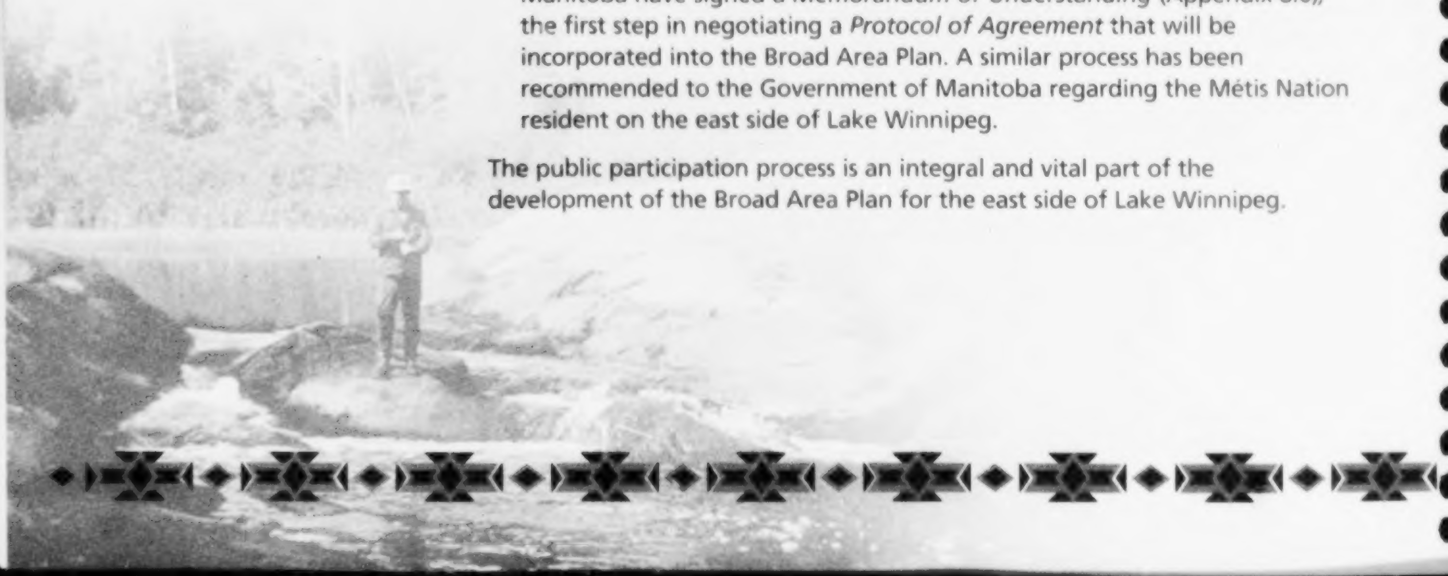
- Substantial documentation and information including public comments received during the preliminary discussions phase of the planning initiative *(East Side Lake Winnipeg Broad Area Planning Initiative Phase I Report)* and Round Table & First Nations Council minutes and presentations, have been placed on the Manitoba Public Registry (Registry File # 4718.00) and on the East Side Lake Winnipeg Planning Initiative website. ***http://www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/eastsideplan/***
- A multilingual information kit (English, Cree, Ojibway, Oji-Cree & Syllabics), consisting of a video presentation, CD, core summary documents, detailed maps and a community questionnaire, has been prepared for public review.
- A first round of community, information-sharing visits engaging the 34 First Nations, Northern Affairs and Métis communities on the east side of Lake Winnipeg has been completed. To date, over 80 community visits and meetings have been held on the Broad Area Plan.
- The East Side Round Table published and distributed *What We Heard* (Appendix 8.4), a compendium of observations, recommendations and concerns expressed by community residents gathered during the first round of community visits. The document is cross-referenced by community and by issues.

Public Participation Process


East Side Community Information Visits
Publication of "What We Heard"
Community development consultants / facilitators to develop input
Elders meetings in communities to explain concept of Broad Area Plan
Aboriginal & Treaty Rights Workshop
East Side Elders Gathering Winnipeg
A multi-lingual information kit
Ministerial Engagement in East Side Communities
WORKING GROUPS
East Side Round Table / First Nations Council / Advisory Committee
ES Round Table
ES First Nations Council
Minister & Cabinet
East Side Youth Conference Winnipeg
Manitoba Public Registry
Open House Information Sessions – Manitoba
Request for Public Submissions Manitoba
Aboriginal Memorandum of Understanding & Protocol
International Symposium of Planning, Resource Use & Resource Protection in the Boreal Environment
Soliciting expert papers

- Resources will be made available through the engagement of community development consultants to assist the east side communities in further developing their positions and inputs to the Broad Area Plan through the second stage of community visits.
- Specific meetings have been organized with the Elders and leadership of First Nations communities to explain the purpose and function of a Broad Area Plan (Appendix 8.6).
- As 96 per cent of the population of the east side of Lake Winnipeg consists of First Nations peoples, the Round Table and the First Nations Council organized an Elders gathering to begin receiving their recommendations and concerns about the Broad Area Plan. Elders are invited to all Round Table and First Nations Council meetings.
- The Round Table and the First Nations Council have committed to organize a youth conference involving young residents between the ages of 18 & 24 resident on the east side of Lake Winnipeg. The purpose of the conference is to gather the views and recommendations of youth on the future of land use on the east side.
- The Round Table and the First Nations Council organized a workshop on "Recent Case Law and Aboriginal & Treaty Rights and Entitlements" to consider the impact of such on the east side of Lake Winnipeg.
- There were three Open House Information Sessions in Manitoba where documentation was made available and the scope and intent of the Broad Area Plan was explained to interested Manitobans. Submissions, recommendations, concerns and observations were solicited through questionnaires (Appendix 8.3).
- The Round Table and the First Nations Council have recommended the organization of an international symposium on Planning, Resource Use & Resource Protection in a Boreal Forest Environment. The symposium would be organized in partnership with public institutions like the International Institute for Sustainable Development, the Natural Resources Institute and the Centre for Indigenous Environmental Resources.
- The First Nations on the east side of Lake Winnipeg and the Government of Manitoba have signed a *Memorandum of Understanding* (Appendix 8.6), the first step in negotiating a *Protocol of Agreement* that will be incorporated into the Broad Area Plan. A similar process has been recommended to the Government of Manitoba regarding the Métis Nation resident on the east side of Lake Winnipeg.

The public participation process is an integral and vital part of the development of the Broad Area Plan for the east side of Lake Winnipeg.



5. Overarching Themes & Recommendations of General Application

5.1 Solidifying an Ongoing Process: Continuing the Creation of a Broad Area Plan & Possible Options – An Interim Planning Authority

Key to the construction of a Broad Area Plan for the east side of Lake Winnipeg has been the participation of its residents. As previously noted, there are 16 First Nations communities in the area comprising 96 per cent of the total population of 36,000. Off-reserve, Métis and other residents make up the remaining four per cent of the population, dispersed among a number of Northern Affairs and other communities. As indicated in the review of the public participation process (Chapter 4 – 4.3), the East Side Round Table, First Nations Council and East Side Advisory Committee members have worked hard at disseminating information on the Broad Area Plan throughout the region and attending numerous community meetings to gain valuable feedback on issues and concerns relating to the planning process and the content of the plan itself. This has been done with modest resources and a limited time frame.

The work has been further complicated by the uniqueness of the venture, the vastness of the area, and the importance and complexity of the issues. Nevertheless, most communities, while asserting that there is still insufficient information in the communities about the Broad Area Plan for the east side of Lake Winnipeg, have committed to engage in the planning process.

Communities have participated in an initial round of information sharing and gathering sessions, producing an initial *What We Heard* document. This is now being supplemented by more in-depth work in the communities undertaken by community development specialists resourced by the ESPI process. NACC communities and Métis locales have been so engaged and work in First Nations communities is scheduled to begin in the fall of 2004. It is hoped that this work will produce more formal community submissions that will be considered and incorporated into the Broad Area Plan following the submission of this status report.

Six Manitoba government ministers have also visited First Nations communities on the east side to restate the government's commitment to this process and garner opinion about the future of the east side of Lake Winnipeg and the Broad Area Plan. As well, 13 of 16 First Nations communities on the east side of Lake Winnipeg have signed a historic *Memorandum of Understanding.* This is the first step in negotiating a Protocol of Agreement between East Side First Nations communities and the Government of Manitoba in defining a new relationship. It must be noted that all First Nations within the planning area continue to be represented at the table. The Government of Manitoba has also committed itself to a separate process for negotiating a Protocol with the Métis Nation resident on the east side of Lake Winnipeg. These *Protocols of Agreement,* when completed, will be incorporated as a vital component of the Broad Area Plan for the east side of Lake Winnipeg. Numerous follow-up meetings have been held in the east side communities with chiefs, mayors and their councils and these have been complemented by separate conferences and workshops in Winnipeg and the east side communities with elders and youth.

Clearly much has been done, and much remains to be done. The submission of this preliminary report can be but a bridge to the on-going work required to complete this complex and important process. This unique initiative has both raised expectations and provided all parties with an opportunity to chart new, more constructive relationships.

Indeed, few jurisdictions in Canada have undertaken an initiative of such breadth, scope and vision. With patience and perseverance, it has the potential to significantly contribute to Broad Area Planning in Canada. The essence of this Broad Area Plan will be the significant breadth of community support that it will enjoy because of the engagement of communities, residents and stakeholders who have an abiding interest in the future of the east side.

It is, therefore, essential that the government not break faith with this process and that the development of the Broad Area Plan proceed, unimpeded. The East Side Round Table and the First Nations Council have been told repeatedly that this is one of the most comprehensive public participation processes that the Government of Manitoba has undertaken. If it continues to be done with care and patience, the end product will be well worth the effort expended.

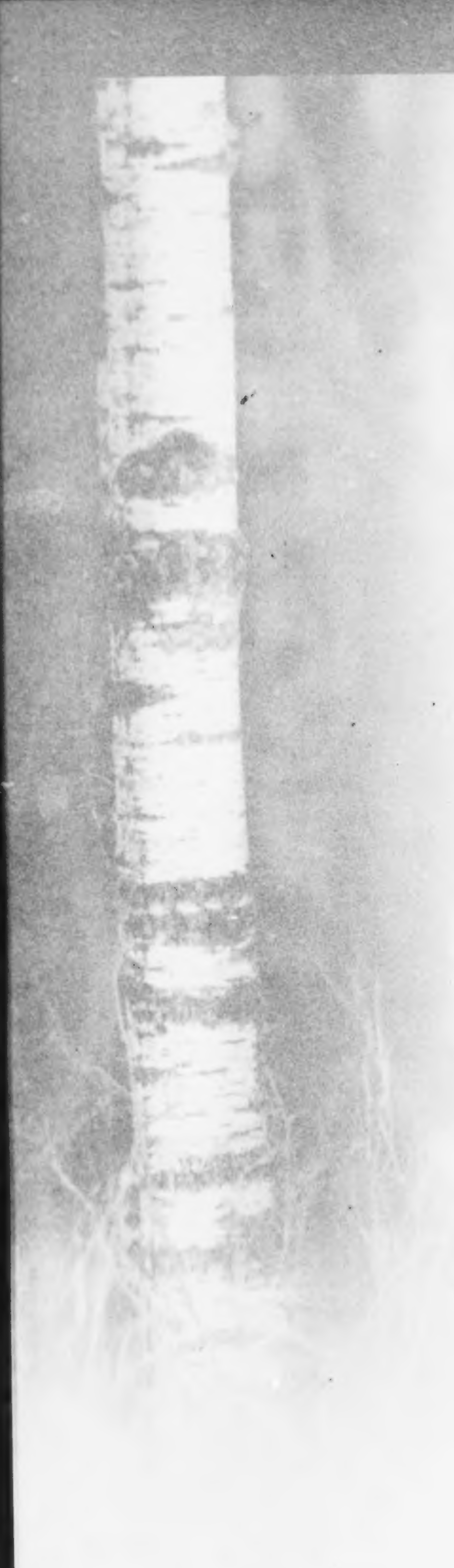
The East Side Round Table and First Nations Council remain convinced that an on-going structure and mechanism external to, but reliant upon government and partner resources is essential to the completion of the Broad Area Plan for the east side of Lake Winnipeg and its accompanying protocols. This ongoing mechanism, which we characterize as an *East Side First Nations Council (ESFNC),* would be an interim structure with specific responsibilities and authorities. The ESFNC would continue until such time as the Broad Area Plan is formally adopted and replaced with an appropriate, permanent collaborative governance mechanism. Options for the establishment of the ESFNC are considered below. Because this is an interim arrangement, the establishment of the ESFNC must be simple to accomplish. There will be no time for lengthy administrative or legislative processes to establish and empower the ESFNC. As well, the system under which the ESFNC makes decisions and recommendations must be straightforward and efficient.

The short-term nature of this arrangement also means that the current legislative and regulatory decision-making processes, such as environmental assessment and licensing, natural resources permitting and forest management practices, will remain in place. Whatever interim structure is adopted must be consistent with the requirements of the current legislation. The challenge is to provide the ESFNC with the ability to make decisions where legislation allows and have extraordinary influence in areas where there it has no explicit legislative support. As well, as ESFNC will not likely include representation from all communities in the area, it is important that individual communities maintain a degree of planning and development autonomy within the context of the interim measures adopted.

There are a number of ways such a body can be established and a number of factors to consider regarding the options for establishing and empowering the ESFNC. Current legislation and negotiated agreements provide authority and precedent for the establishment of the ESFNC with appropriate powers for an interim regime on the east side. Some legislative mechanisms and possibilities that currently exist are provided for in *The Planning Act* and *The Northern Affairs Act*. As well, the *Northern Flood Agreement* has set the stage for share-management agreements to allow the sharing of resource management in designated areas. Imaginative use of any, or a combination, of these tools should provide the means necessary to empower the ESFNC for the planning interim.

The Planning Act provides two options for establishing and empowering the ESFNC on the East Side of Lake Winnipeg. Section 10 of the act allows Cabinet, following consultation with the councils of nearby communities, to designate an area of special regional or provincial significance as a "special planning area". The designation enables, among other things, the protection and conservation of the environment and of natural resources; and the preservation of visual corridors, recreation areas, historic and archaeological sites and wilderness areas. The designation includes conditions attached to the area during the planning process, including the temporary suspension of existing development plans and a moratorium on new development except with the written permission of the minister. It also establishes an advisory committee to advise and make recommendations to the minister regarding the preparation and implementation of a development plan, and related controls.

> ***"After some 500 years of a relationship that has swung from partnership to domination, from mutual respect and co-operation to paternalism and attempted assimilation, Canada must now work out fair and lasting terms of coexistence with Aboriginal people."***
>
> (RCAP)



Another designation option exists under *The Planning Act* (Section 99). The act deems the Minister of Northern Affairs to be the council for areas that are not incorporated communities and allows the minister to delegate some of his/her powers to a local committee or community council – to enact a development plan bylaw and a zoning bylaw for the area.

Under either of these designations, and based on the principles and recommendations articulated in this status report, the ESFNC could work co-operatively with First Nations governments, the Métis Nation government and the councils of the incorporated communities to develop some interim principles and criteria for development, including criteria for the use and lifting of a suspension of certain types or locations of developments. Manitoba Conservation could recognize these principles and give them due consideration during the development assessment process. Proposed developments would be vetted by the ESFNC to ensure they were consistent with these principles and criteria.

As a third option, *The Northern Affairs Act* provides the Minister of Northern Affairs with the authority needed to ensure orderly governance in the northern parts of the province. To this end, the minister acts as a municipality (except in incorporated communities). The minister can designate an area as a community and appoint a local committee to provide local services and act in an advisory/consultative capacity to him/her. The minister can delegate planning and management services to the local committee.

In a similar fashion to the options under *The Planning Act*, the Minister of Northern Affairs could establish the ESFNC as a local committee under *The Northern Affairs Act* and provide it with bylaw-making powers with respect to interim planning and management services. It is less definitive and less comprehensive than the delegation under *The Planning Act*, and might therefore be an advantage as an interim measure. As described above, through the development of interim principles and criteria for development, the local committee could have extraordinary influence in the environmental licensing process.

As a possible supplement to the above options, there is opportunity under *The Wildlife Act* to strengthen the wildlife management capability of the ESFNC. The act provides for the minister to enter into agreements with any group or individual for the joint management of wildlife, which includes the development and implementation of joint informational, educational or training programs; the conduct of joint biological or ecological investigations; and the joint management of wildlife habitats.

Because this provision is restricted to matters pertaining to wildlife, it is not an option to be used in isolation, but it could be supplemental to the other measures to provide more breadth of reach for the local committee or council established under *The Planning Act* or *The Northern Affairs Act*.

A fourth option involves the *Northern Flood Agreement (NFA)*, negotiated in response to the adverse environmental and social impacts caused by hydroelectric development in northern Manitoba in the 1960s and 1970s. It led to the development of share-management agreements with the First Nations that were signature to the NFA. Other First Nations communities have also negotiated share-management agreements. Although not developed pursuant to specific legislation, these agreements are legally binding. Among other things, they establish resource management boards, generally to develop and recommend resource management and land use plans.

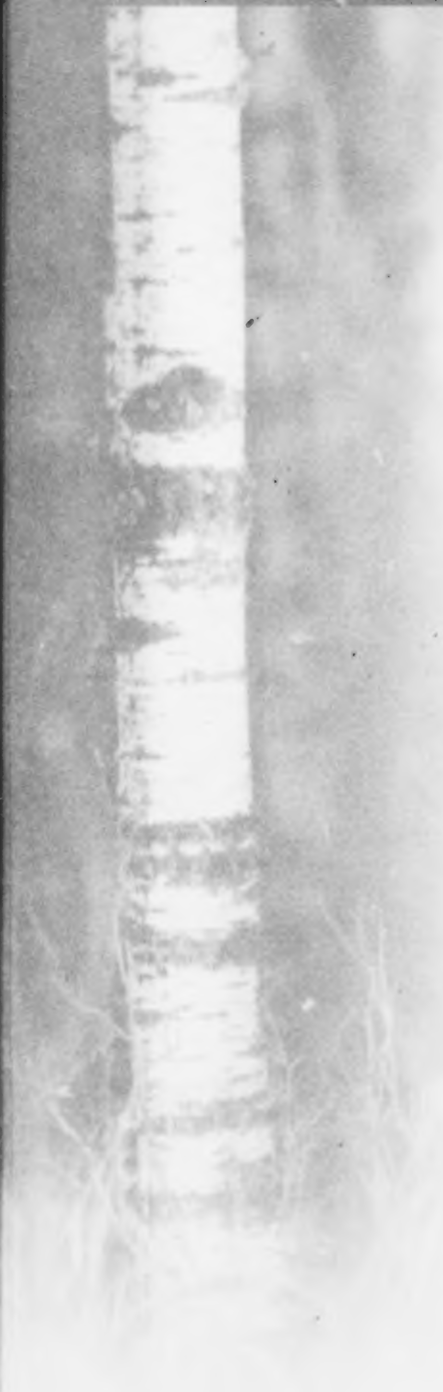
The use of a share-management agreement with the ESFNC, as representative of the area outside the incorporated communities, is a possible approach to providing the ESFNC with the authority it needs to undertake its interim responsibilities. A problem is that the development of a share-management agreement is generally a negotiated process that takes considerable time to complete. Given the wide representation on the ESFNC, there could be quite diverse opinions about the terms of the agreement. As well, the *Protocols of Agreement*, which are to be a fundamental part of the final Broad Area Plan, are likely to focus extensively on share-management agreements. This duality may lead to much confusion as the process moves ahead. The use of the legislative options might be preferential because they appear to be more defined and less subject to negotiation, thus they should be more quickly implemented.

Each of these ideas departs from what currently exists, in that the existing legislative arrangements and share-management agreements are with definable communities – that is, they are community specific. For the ESFNC, however, "the community" to be designated, or the area represented by the "local committee" would need to include all of those lands surrounding incorporated towns and villages within the east side planning area, outside of First Nations reserve or Treaty Land Entitlement lands. The ESFNC, then, would be the community council or local committee for all of the lands in the east side planning process outside of those areas.

The proposed arrangement raises the question of the relationship between the larger area and the local communities. ESFNC should develop principles for decision-making during the interim period *vis-à-vis* the relationship between the ESFNC and individual community councils. For example, ESFNC involvement in local decision-making might be limited to those instances where the impacts of a decision would reach beyond the borders of a community. Or the ESFNC would review all development proposals in the east side area, but a decision would require the affirmation of a majority of the ESFNC and that majority would need to include the local community council.

However it is accomplished, it is critical that through whatever means are available, the ESFNC should be given sufficient status to influence the legislated government decision-making processes currently in place.

> ***"Through the centuries our people have lived in this region and using their intimate knowledge of all forms of life, have practiced true sustainability. They have lived by hunting and fishing, gathering food and medicines as well as making a living through trapping and fishing without destroying the environment."***
>
> (Poplar River First Nation – Website)



The recommendations relating to 5.1 *Solidifying an On-Going Process: Continuing the Creation of a Broad Area Plan & Possible Options – An Interim Planning Authority* attempt to propose mechanisms that will assist in continuing the development of the East Side of Lake Winnipeg Broad Area Plan. They respect the fiscal limitations under which the current government labours and recognize the need for the ongoing provision of modest resources, and the interest among many communities and stakeholders in achieving a measure of certainty about the future of the east side of Lake Winnipeg. The recommendations recognize that the ongoing development of the Broad Area Plan for the east side of Lake Winnipeg will continue to require oversight mechanisms. These mechanisms will require a measure of independence and must primarily reflect the population distribution on the east side of Lake Winnipeg.

Recommendations

5.1.1

The Government of Manitoba commit to continuing a comprehensive process of dialogue, negotiations and consultations with the inhabitants of the east side of Lake Winnipeg, and stakeholders to ensure the development of all components of the Broad Area Plan for the east side of Lake Winnipeg, including a *Protocol of Agreement* with East Side First Nations Governments which must respect, recognize and protect Aboriginal and Treaty Rights.

5.1.2

The Government of Manitoba also commit to negotiating, as part of the Broad Area Plan for the east side of Lake Winnipeg, a *Protocol of Agreement* with the Métis government representing the Métis Nation resident on the east side of Lake Winnipeg, which must respect, recognize and protect Aboriginal Rights.

5.1.3

The Government of Manitoba acting solely or in concert with other partners provide adequate human and financial resources to permit the comprehensive on-going process to complete all components of the Broad Area Plan including the *Protocols of Agreement.*

5.1.4

The Minister of Conservation actively explore the possibility of creating a resources and financial partnership with other provincial departments, the federal government, East Side First Nations, the private sector, public agencies and environmental non-governmental organizations in order to generate a pool of funds and other resources to permit the on-going development of a comprehensive Broad Area Plan.

5.1.5

The Government of Manitoba re-organizes the structural and operational support mechanisms for the on-going process by continuing with the East Side

First Nations Council, which would receive advice from an advisory body, and would serve until such time as the Broad Area Plan and the *Protocols of Agreement* are completed and adopted by the Government of Manitoba, First Nations and Métis governments.

5.1.6

The East Side First Nations Council be provided with a renewed mandate:

- To continue to facilitate and support negotiations and consultations on Protocols of Agreement with the First Nations governments;
- To continue to facilitate and support negotiations and consultations on a Protocol of Agreement with the Métis government representing the Métis Nation resident on the east side of Lake Winnipeg;
- To continue to provide and collect information, consider and analyze community and individual submissions, engage in discussions and prepare the final recommendations for the Broad Area Plan for the east side of Lake Winnipeg pursuant to the mandate initially provided by the Minister; and
- To assume planning authority for land use and development within the territory of the Broad Area Plan in providing the Government of Manitoba with direction and advice on major, large-scale land use developments or initiatives.

Until such time as the Broad Area Plan and the Protocols of Agreement have been concluded, the East Side First Nations Council shall assume planning authority for lands in the planning area at the earliest possible opportunity.

5.1.7

The Government of Manitoba consider the options identified in 5.1 in establishing and defining the planning authority for the East Side First Nations Council.

5.1.8

The Government of Manitoba shall consult with the East Side First Nations Council and seek its direction and recommendations on all major new land use developments, including cottage lot developments, or initiatives, such as those described in Phase 1 – Final Report, occurring within the planning boundaries of the east side of Lake Winnipeg. As such, the East Side First Nations Council will exercise regional planning powers to the maximum extent allowable under existing legislation or case law, until such time as the Government of Manitoba is in receipt of the final recommendations constituting the draft Broad Area Plan for the east side of Lake Winnipeg. It is understood that this authority extends only to those lands outside of reserve lands or Treaty Land Entitlements within the planning region, and in which First Nation and Métis Nation Governments, and the Government of Manitoba assert sole or joint interest and jurisdiction.

5.1.9

With respect to the composition of the East Side First Nations Council (ESFNC),

- That the ESFNC be presided over by an independent Chair whose appointment is subject to the mutual agreement of the ESFNC and the Government of Manitoba;
- That the ESFNC will consist of the twenty-one (21) members – sixteen (16) East Side First Nation Chiefs or their designates, one (1) representative from the Métis Nation government, or their designate, and four (4) representatives nominated by the East Side Round Table, with a preference for the inclusion of current members; and
- That the ESFNC will be assisted by an East Side Advisory Committee, the members of which shall be agreed upon by the ESFNC and the Government of Manitoba.

5.1.10

All decisions of the ESFNC be subject to the principle of a "double majority", that being the majority of the ESFNC members and the authorized representative to the ESFNC of the First Nation governments within whose traditional lands, the land use activity is proposed to take place. It is understood by this principle, that no major developments may proceed without the expressed consent of the First Nation so affected. Conversely, should the ESFNC not approve a First Nations land-use initiative, it is incumbent upon the applicant First Nation, as part of a mediation process, to indicate how the initiative is consistent with the values and principles of the Broad Area Plan.

5.1.11

The ESFNC be supported by a sufficiently resourced and independent Secretariat, the head of which is appointed following the joint concurrence of ESFNC and the Government of Manitoba.

5.1.12

The ESFNC be assisted in the process of finalizing the Broad Area Plan recommendations for the east side of Lake Winnipeg by the East Side Advisory Committee recognizing that membership in this committee may have to be re-constituted so as to remain current. The ESFNC may wish to continue to use existing Broad Area Plan Working Groups or create other such support mechanisms.

5.1.13

It is understood that all such developments or initiatives identified in recommendation 5.1.8 above be subjected to a comprehensive *Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and Traditional Lands Impact Assessment* as part of any Environmental Impact Assessments that may be required. It is further recommended that the ESFNC, early in its mandate, commission research in order to establish an acceptable methodology for conducting such an assessment.

5.1.14
Consistent with the approach identified in 5.3 *Initiatives to Protect the Integrity of the Boreal Environment,* that all of the lands within the boundaries of the Broad Area Plan for the east side of Lake Winnipeg, external to human settlements are considered as *"Protected"* as further elaborated in Chapter 5.3, and pursuant to the processes defined above, it is understood that in this context, the ESFNC will assume planning authority for land use and development within the territory of the Broad Area Plan in providing the Government of Manitoba with direction and advice on major, large-scale land use developments or initiatives.

5.2 Building Positive Relationships with Aboriginal Peoples: *Protocols of Agreement*

Mandate

"The east side plan recognize, affirm and be in compliance with treaty obligations and Aboriginal rights and be consistent with the consultation/protocol guideline recommendations of the COSDI Report respecting First Nations and Aboriginal peoples."

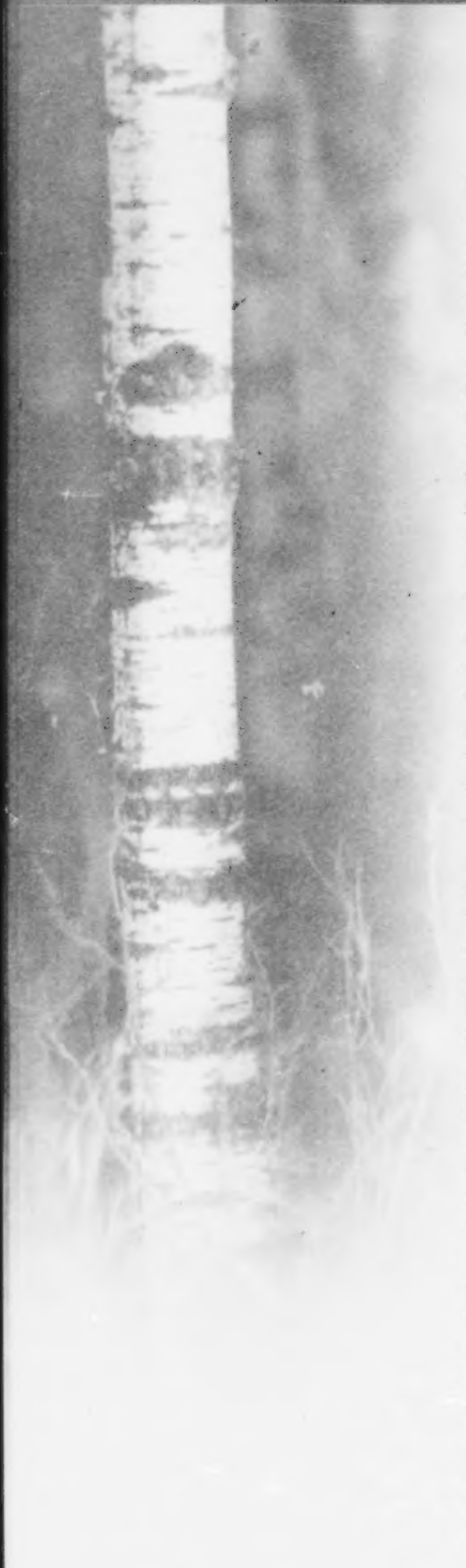
A key dimension of the East Side of Lake Winnipeg Broad Area Plan is to ensure residents from the Aboriginal communities participate in its deliberations. The majority of the residents living on the east side of Lake Winnipeg are First Nations peoples. The population of the Métis Nation resident on the east side is comparatively smaller than the majority living in communities under the jurisdiction of Aboriginal and Northern Affairs. The Métis Nation resident on the east side of Lake Winnipeg participate in the ESPI process as members of the East Side Round Table, Working Groups, and the East Side Advisory Committee.

As previously noted, the 16 First Nations communities within the planning area have a population of approximately 36,000 people, which represents 96 per cent of the total population. The chief and council of each community have appointed one person to serve on a First Nations Council. This 16-member council represents each First Nations community in meetings and other activities of ESPI.

One of the main objectives of the Broad Area Plan was, and continues to be, to seek advice from local community residents and others living in the area. Local knowledge received from community members, and especially from the elders, is seen as a key ingredient in the planning process of ESPI. It was with that in mind that a series of visits were made to communities to elicit input from a wide range of local interests.

The size of the area and geography has made community visits and information sharing a demanding process. Transportation and communication

> ***"Manitoba work in partnership with Aboriginal peoples to develop a cooperative protocol to address the involvement of Aboriginal peoples where their land and resource use planning, significant resource allocation, development assessment and review and regulatory mechanisms, including effects assessment tools and documents are affected."***
>
> (Consultation on Sustainable Development Implementation – 1999)



realities in the north create difficulties in networking with society in the south. As well, communities in the north are confronted daily with a barrage of never-ending social and economic challenges. Leadership and organizations are repeatedly faced with the reality of balancing their time between working towards solving immediate issues and focusing on longer term planning, with the latter often being sacrificed for the urgency of the matters at hand. This situation has had an impact on the exchange of information between communities and the East Side Planning Initiative. For that reason, community visits by the East Side Round Table and Secretariat members often did not have a desired level of participation from the communities. It did not mean that ESPI was seen as an unimportant process to communities, but rather, ESPI has had to take its place along with many other immediate pressing issues in communities. Therefore, conditions and circumstances in communities have been a factor in attempting to determine timelines and outcomes both in conveying and eliciting information.

Clearly, the effective exchange of information with northern and Aboriginal communities is a time-consuming process. Communities must be given the time required to digest the information and think about what role they will play and how their participation can contribute to the Broad Area Plan. To that end, there is still much work that has to be done to satisfy the need sought by communities to understand the components of the Broad Area Plan and how to participate fully in its development.

An ongoing process of information exchange between ESPI, First Nations and the Métis Nation resident on the east side of Lake Winnipeg must continue. This is necessary if the hope is to develop an atmosphere of mutual understanding and a willingness to build relationships. During visits to communities, Aboriginal people who attended meetings expressed an interest in being full participants in planning for the future of their communities and the environment.

Developing a Broad Area Plan for the east side of Lake Winnipeg continues to be the objective of ESPI. First Nations, being the majority of residents in the area, have a special relationship to the land. The Métis Nation also has this special relationship. For that reason, their views and concerns must be a key component of the planning process. The ESPI process also respects and acknowledges First Nations and Métis Nation governments, peoples, communities, and their legal and constitutional rights. A Broad Area Plan without these essential ingredients will not serve the interests of local communities or other Manitobans in seeking a solid strategy for participatory and sustainable development on the east side. This acknowledgement and recognition is required to create the pillars of trust needed to build long-term relationships between Aboriginal people and non-Aboriginal governments.

To build dialogue and enduring relationships, however, it will be necessary for both sides to examine the evolution of current relationships and current perceptions that may have prevented deeper understanding and inhibited progress and change in the past. New ideas and a new awareness are needed to create partnerships to build vibrant communities, while at the same time, protect the environment. An effective exchange of information, and opening the doors to a broader public participation, is fundamental to positively redefining these relationships.

Within the past eight months, ESPI teams consisting of Round Table, First Nations Council and secretariat members visited communities to present information and listen to concerns of residents. The message from many communities was the hope that this process could give them a forum to convey views and opinions on the pressing issues regarding their traditional territories and the environment. Among the concerns heard in many communities was that resource development and economic activity often happened in and around their areas without local input or benefit.

In such instances, communities did not have a voice in projects like mining, forestry, tourism or hydro developments. Throughout the ESPI visits, communities clearly indicated that a Broad Area Plan should contain a mechanism to provide communities with a voice, so that any economic activity or resource development projects (either by government or industry) within their traditional areas, would require local participation and support.

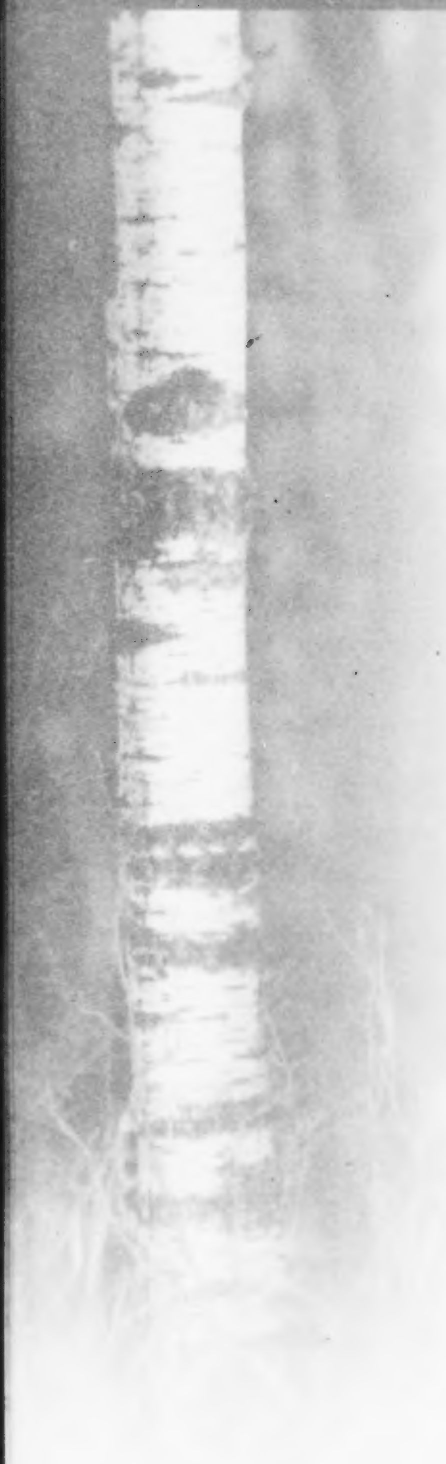
As noted earlier in the report, First Nations governments and the Métis Nation government on the east side of Lake Winnipeg must be partners in planning, due to their respective treaty and Aboriginal rights and their unique relationship to the land. To promote this partnership, ESPI has endeavoured to facilitate a *Memorandum of Understanding* (MOU) between First Nations and the Government of Manitoba. The MOU creates an agreement between First Nations living in the planning area and the Government of Manitoba. This document has committed the Government of Manitoba and the east side First Nations to discuss issues and concerns relative to the Broad Area Plan. As of the publication date of this status report, 13 of the 16 First Nations have signed this MOU. The next stage of working to resolve issues and build consensus on initiatives respecting the Broad Area Plan, will be a task requiring more complex negotiations.

The instrument needed to accommodate a more formal arrangement to partner and share in decisions respecting the Broad Area Plan would be the *Protocols of Agreement*. Such agreements resemble an official procedure or set of rules for working towards negotiation and consensus. They are guides that parties must adhere to in attempting to establish working relationships and share management arrangements. The protocols would focus both on the process and contents of agreements that will meet the objectives of both parties.

There will also be a separate protocol negotiation process for the Métis Nation resident on the east side of Lake Winnipeg. ESPI will be meeting with their representatives to discuss the possibility of entering into protocol negotiations.

"We start with the principle of mutual recognition. This calls on non-Aboriginal Canadians to recognize that Aboriginal people are the original inhabitants and caretakers of this land and have distinctive rights and responsibilities that flow from that status. At the same time, it calls on Aboriginal people to accept that non-Aboriginal people are also of this land, by birth and by adoption, and have strong ties of affection and loyalty here. More broadly, mutual recognition means that Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people acknowledge and relate to one another as equals, co-existing side by side and governing themselves according to their own laws and institutions. Mutual recognition thus has three major facets: equality, co-existence and self-government."

(RCAP)



The Métis Nation is recognized as having Aboriginal rights based on their distinct status as an Aboriginal people within Canada. There will be a need to co-ordinate efforts to ensure there is no overlap in protocol negotiations between First Nations and other Aboriginal peoples.

As part of the ESPI process, First Nations communities in the planning area, and the Government of Manitoba, are currently engaged in a protocol negotiation process. This negotiation process is an integral part of the Broad Area Plan. Discussions held by both parties are in the preliminary stages and are intended to build a framework to guide decisions and initiatives within the Broad Area Plan. These *Protocols of Agreement* will constitute a fundamental component of the Broad Area Plan. Contained within these protocols will be provisions that determine how to implement the ingredients of the Broad Area Plan. Thus, the Broad Area Plan is very much about "what we want to do" and the protocols contained within the plan will determine "how it can be done".

Community visits informed Round Table members that, historically, the views of Aboriginal people have not been considered seriously in most resource development activities or on environmental issues within traditional territories. It was frequently suggested that past governments may have informed Aboriginal communities of resource and industry activities but this cannot be considered participation or consultation. Recent court decisions have confirmed this and have prompted governments to re-examine their relationships with Aboriginal peoples.

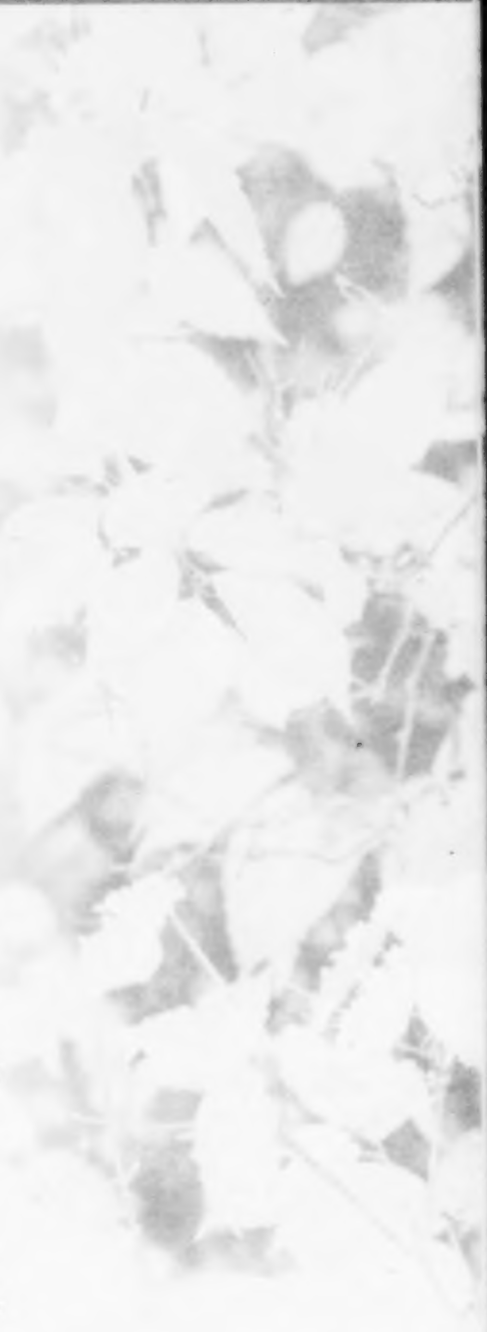
The Protocols of Agreement will become an instrument within the Broad Area Plan to effectively guide progress and shape change for generations to come. At the same time, it ensures an ongoing role and full participation for Aboriginal peoples in determining outcomes within their traditional territories.

To build effective, enduring relationships, Aboriginal people in the east side planning area and the Government of Manitoba must endeavour to understand the origins and causes of today's differences in views. It is critical to the ESPI process that the Government of Manitoba invests the time necessary to cultivate and nourish a new relationship with Aboriginal peoples, who have contributed so extensively to the development of this province. Attempts to reach agreements quickly and without an intense exchange of information, will not likely garner support of communities.

Recommendations:

5.2.1

A Protocol of Agreement be developed between the Government of Manitoba and First Nation governments on the east side of Lake Winnipeg and that the agreement will become an integral part of the Broad Area Plan and serve to guide its implementation.



5.2.2
A Protocol of Agreement be developed between the Government of Manitoba and the Métis Nation government representing the Métis Nation resident on the east side of Lake Winnipeg and that the agreement will become an integral part of the Broad Area Plan and serve to guide its implementation.

5.2.3
The Government of Manitoba should finalize outstanding Treaty Land Entitlement issues with First Nation governments on the east side of Lake Winnipeg.

5.2.4
The Government of Manitoba must develop a resource-sharing framework for the east side of Lake Winnipeg within the context of the Protocols. The framework may require two levels: an umbrella agreement between Governments of Manitoba, First Nations and the Métis Nation to serve as guiding principles for the area. Second level agreements will be required between Governments of Manitoba, First Nations and the Métis Nation Governments on specific land use. Agreements for specific land use decisions would include but would not be limited to access, revenue sharing, procurement, capacity building, shared stewardship, and environmental management.

5.2.5
Such agreements should be concluded on all resource uses within Aboriginal traditional territories prior to implementation of recommendations of the Broad Area Plan. For example, these agreements could include share-management arrangements for various natural resources within the planning area, including but not limited to provisions for royalty and/or revenue sharing and other benefits with First Nations Governments and the Métis government representing the Métis Nation resident on the east side of Lake Winnipeg for resources removed from traditional lands.

5.2.6
The Government of Manitoba, crown corporations and other public agencies, and the private sector must recognize, respect, and honour local agreements between east side First Nations Governments and the Métis Nation resident on the east side of Lake Winnipeg respecting development within traditional, cultural, and resource territories, as this is instrumental in creating greater control and participation for local communities.

5.2.7
Community-based land use planning, consistent with the values and principles of the Broad Area Plan, should be initiated or completed prior to any development activities within their traditional lands. It should guide the identification and development of resource-based opportunities, including protected areas and infrastructure development in the east side planning area.

As has been indicated elsewhere in this report it is of paramount importance that adequate resources be made available to assist First Nation and Métis Governments and Northern Affairs communities in land use planning. Community-based land use planning must be given priority attention by all governments engaged or impacted by this process.

5.2.8
All future discussions, consultations and negotiations between the public and private sectors, and First Nations and Métis Governments and Northern Affairs communities on the east side of Lake Winnipeg be subject to the protocols defined for such activities in the on-going governance mechanism adopted to oversee the implementation of and adherence to the Broad Area Plan for the east side of Lake Winnipeg.

5.2.9
Whatever on-going mechanism is established to oversee the implementation of and adherence to the East Side of Lake Winnipeg Broad Area Plan, it include monitoring and compliance powers to ensure that both public and private sector resource users comply with all components of the Protocols with First Nations and Métis governments respecting the Broad Area Plan for the east side of Lake Winnipeg.

5.3 Initiatives to Protect the Integrity of the Boreal Environment

One of the three fundamental principles guiding the advice the East Side Round Table provides to government on the Broad Area Plan is: "Maintaining the ecological integrity and biological functions of the boreal forest within the planning area".

Based on this principle, maintaining the integrity of the boreal environment on the east side has been a core consideration in the development of the plan. The challenge facing the East Side Round Table and stakeholders in the planning area, is to find a means of integrating economic, social, cultural and environmental interests of east side residents and all Manitobans so that the boreal environment is protected, while plan objectives are achieved.

When we speak of maintaining ecological integrity of the boreal environment, we are referring to a landscape upon which natural ecological processes bring about self-organization, diversity, resilience, long-term change and renewal. Ecological integrity is an ecosystem state of being, and needs to be seen as something to be maintained over time. It is a landscape in which there is a full complement of species, natural populations, interdependent relationships, diverse habitats and multiple pathways for energy flow through the ecosystem. It is a landscape with a patchwork of habitats that are not heavily fragmented by linear breaks such as roads and hydroelectric corridors. We are speaking of a landscape on which concerns over the loss of rare or threatened species prompts management constraints and legislation to protect them. On the east side, we are also speaking of a landscape that continues to support Aboriginal people who occupy and use the land.

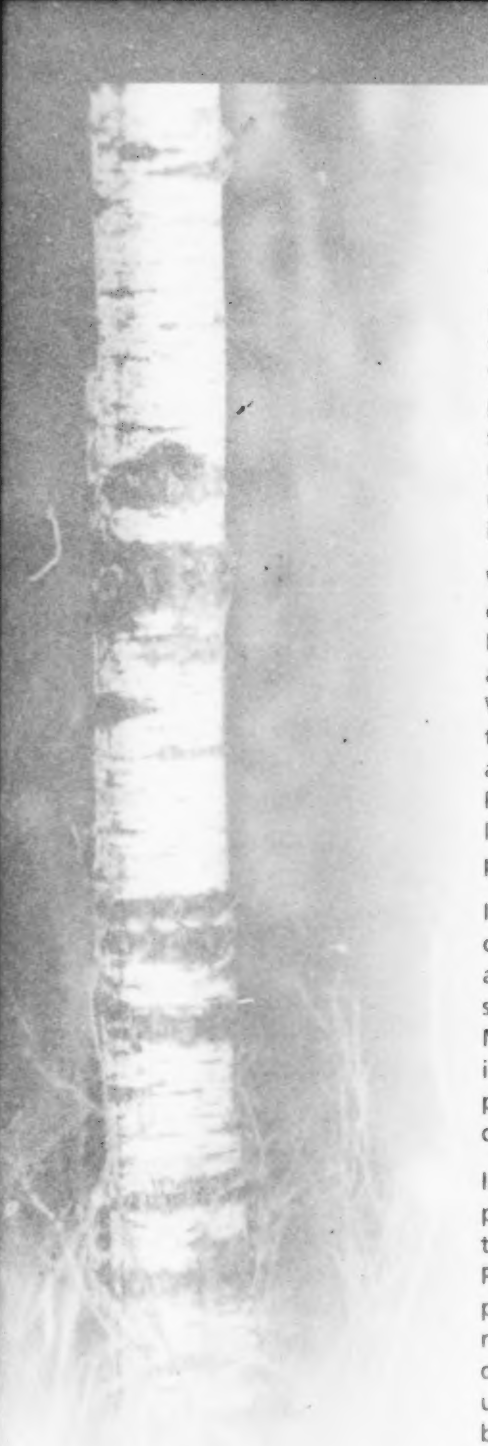
At the same time, the boreal environment in the east side planning area is unique in several ways. First, it is inhabited by 16 First Nations that have occupied it for millenniums. Second, it is large – approximately 82,000 square kilometres. It is a mostly undisturbed (by human activity) and contiguous forest and wetlands complex that stretches eastward well into Ontario. It represents one of the few remaining, mainly untouched, broad area landscapes in mid-Canada. Third, there has been relatively little economic development within it, making sound planning a necessity. Fourth, it contains important populations of species such as woodland caribou that are considered threatened within shrinking and increasingly fragmented habitats. Fifth, being largely undisturbed, it provides valuable ecological services for the health of our water, land and air. Sixth, it is widely recognized that the economic development potential on the east side is high and virtually unexploited.

Therefore, the east side planning area is a vast landscape with important natural, cultural and economic values. It is a landscape largely undeveloped in the economic sense, yet fully developed if it is seen as a functioning ecosystem. It is an area of high value and importance for the ecological role it plays. It is ecologically both sensitive and resilient, and subject to future economic development pressures. For these reasons, the area has captured local, national and international interest.

Potential threats to ecological integrity on the east side take the form of unsustainable levels of economic activity, or allowing it to occur in sensitive locations; unsustainable forestry practices; reduction of habitats for sensitive species, local over fishing; local excessive hunting pressure; habitat fragmentation by road and hydroelectric corridors, etc. There are more subtle concerns such as the gradual inhabitation of shorelines by cottage owners and their subsequent demand for services, or the suppression of wildfire, which gradually threatens the whole forest with major conflagration. Wherever they live, humans are agents of environmental change. The challenge is to achieve a consensus on how to use and protect this landscape in a sustainable manner.

All the issues addressed within the Broad Area Plan, including transportation, mining, forestry, tourism, hydroelectric corridors, etc., will have a bearing on how the boreal environment on the east side will be protected. Because of this, there needs to be clear guidance from the Round Table and the First Nation Council on what direction is recommended as an approach to protecting the boreal environment. This clear approach will guide the decision-making on the other resource development aspects of the Broad Area Plan. Equally important is a requirement to ensure that the scientific database, upon which these decisions must be based, is current. This database must include local and traditional ecological knowledge.

> ***"The northern boreal ecoregion accounts for about one third of this planet's total forest area. It is comprised of a broad circumpolar band which runs through most of Canada, Russia, Scandinavia and parts of Northern Scotland. Compared to much of the world, this ecoregion enjoys a sparse population and thus one would think, few threats to its immense and majestic beauty. However the reality is quite different."***
>
> - Sierra Club



There have recently been several initiatives aimed at achieving long-term protection for portions of the east side. The established mechanism consists of creating a system or network of protected areas with formal protection under the province's *Action Plan for Manitoba's Network of Protected Areas*. The protected area network is intended to contain adequate representation of significant, enduring features in each of the 18 natural regions and sub-regions in Manitoba. On the east side, 14 per cent of the land area is already under formal protection within parks (including Poplar/Nanowin, which has interim protection).

While most of the enduring features are already adequately protected within existing parks (Atikaki[2], etc.) in the southern portion of the planning area Natural Region 4c, Protected Area Initiative officials have identified three additional areas to capture the enduring features not currently represented. Within the northern part of the planning area, Natural Region 4b, it is felt that most of the enduring features are under-represented by formal protected areas. Eight Areas of Special Interest (ASIs) have been identified in Natural Region 4b that could become formally protected areas under provincial legislation in the future. These amount to an additional 15 per cent of the plan area.

In *Manitoba's Action Plan for a Network of Protected Areas,* the province has committed to a public process for reaching decisions on designating protected areas under the act. Also, in 1998, a *Memorandum of Understanding* was signed between Manitoba and the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs and the Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakinak (MKO) that outlines a process of identifying, establishing and managing a network of protected areas that also protects First Nations' interests. These decision-making processes should be developed as a component of the Broad Area Plan.

In addition to the ASIs identified by the province, there is another large protected area that is currently a Park Reserve, comprising the majority of the traditional lands of the Poplar River First Nation. This Poplar/Nanowin Rivers Park Reserve covers over 7,400 square kilometres and has been formally protected by the province as a Park Reserve. The Poplar River First Nation recently received approval from the province for a five-year renewal to this designation. The community is presently engaged in a community-based, land-use planning project to determine what land uses and further protections will be applied within the Park Reserve area. Using this approach, the Poplar River First Nation has retained local control over land use decisions within its traditional territory.

More recently, Poplar River, Pauingassi, Little Grand Rapids and Bloodvein First Nations, along with Pikangikum in Ontario, have agreed in a signed accord, to join their traditional territories together as one large protected area under their stewardship. This huge area includes portions of their traditional lands in Ontario as well, and the traditional territory of the Pikangikum First Nation on the Ontario side. Together, the five First Nations have agreed to co-operate in the protection and care of these lands as a sacred trust. In doing so, their stated intent is to give priority to and respect teachings and practices of their Elders, and to make use of traditional knowledge in the protection and care of the land.

---

[2] Atikaki – From the Ojibway words "Atik" meaning "caribou" and "Aki" meaning "land".

In Manitoba, the signatories to the accord support the goals of the Pikangikum First Nation in Ontario in its Whitefeather Initiative, which incorporates both protected areas and community forestry components, including local community forest management tenure and stewardship. Furthermore, the five First Nations in the accord have requested that their initiative be given international recognition by being considered as a UNESCO World Natural and Cultural Heritage Site. On April 30, 2004, Environment Canada announced that this area has been added to Canada's list of candidate World Heritage Sites.

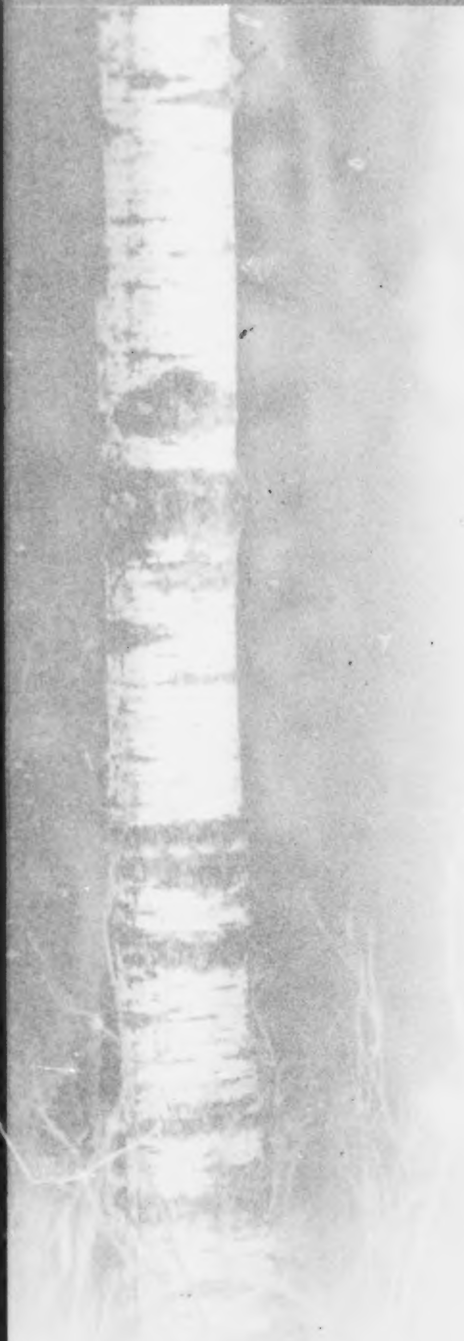
A number of other First Nation communities in the planning area expressed a strong interest in being able to protect areas of particular concern to them. Whether they are sacred burial grounds, ceremonial sites, medicinal, herbal or berry-picking sites, First Nations have expressed a strong desire to work with the province in protecting these areas, as well as pursuing economic and resource sharing opportunities. Encouraging First Nations communities to both map and nominate these sites for protection, according to a mutually agreed upon set of criteria, would be a progressive step by the Government of Manitoba.

> ***"Development would upset natural process. Any development should be properly planned and proceed with caution."***
>
> (East Side Resident)

A related activity comes from the Canadian Boreal Initiative. Its proposal to enhance protection for the boreal forest is broader than the east side planning area. The initiative has advanced a framework for boreal forest conservation that seeks to give the highest level of protection to at least 50 per cent of the forest, and support sustainable communities in the remainder, through development based on state-of-the-art stewardship and management practices. The vision of the initiative is to safeguard the balance of nature for all time in Canada's boreal region through an interconnected network of large-scale protected areas and conservation lands; by applying leading-edge sustainable development practices on the remaining landscape; and by ensuring local and First Nations engagement in land management decisions.

The framework lists a series of principles, elements and commitments which describe the conditions that would be met with full implementation. The principles and elements are aimed at ensuring that sufficient natural areas are left intact to ensure the boreal environment provides ecological services and full ecosystem function (retains its ecological integrity). The idea is to establish an interconnected network of large protected areas across the boreal band of forest to accomplish this. The principles call for a process of full consultation and local involvement in decisions that affect the boreal environment.

In the planning area, the linked protected areas noted in the accord mentioned above, and subject to consideration for World Heritage Site



designation, are specifically included in the broader Canadian Boreal Initiative. These linked areas cover most of the mid-portion of the planning area. It should be stressed that the Canadian Boreal Initiative envisions protection and sustainable communities on the same landscape. Reliance on modern stewardship techniques and best practices is essential to achieve sustainability. Fortunately, such practices are available, such as guidelines under the Forest Stewardship Council, and improved mineral development practices, road building techniques, etc.

It is clear that the meaning of the term "protection" as used in the First Nations Accord, although not specifically defined, is different from its meaning in the Manitoba Parks Act or other acts and regulations. The difference seems to be two-fold: First, protection in legislation involves the prohibition of certain land uses. Under *The Parks Act* or *Ecological Reserves Act,* for example, certain activities such as commercial forestry or mining are prohibited in protected areas. It is apparent that the First Nations' concept of "protected" does not necessarily prohibit these land uses, and could include local stewardship of forest resources, and perhaps other developments, as long as there is local control, and local benefit. Under the accord, landscape can be deemed "protected", but protection can include managed use.

A second difference seems to be that an area can be seen as protected if it is managed within the framework of traditional values and knowledge and under the guidance of Elders. This is important. Technical experts from outside of Aboriginal communities cannot replace this contextual knowledge with modern science, and decisions based on the latter seem unsatisfactory to Aboriginal people.

With these differences in mind, there are two notions of what we mean by "protected". To some people, "protected" means lands on which some land uses, such as resource extraction, are prohibited by law. To other people, "protected" means lands that are cared for and used according to traditional approaches, that land uses and local stewardship are permitted, and that the land is passed undamaged to subsequent generations. Both notions need to apply within the plan area.

In Section 3 of this report, the vision for the plan area set by the Round Table included the need to protect the land, and the use of the precautionary principle in making land–use decisions. To extend these elements of the vision to protecting the integrity of the boreal forest, it is useful to conceive of the whole planning area as protected, and that within it, there are sub-areas with different levels of protection. The highest level of protection could be achieved through legislation where certain land uses are prohibited by law. Other levels of protection can be applied to other land uses within the plan area. These require the stipulations that land use decisions need to be based on adequate knowledge of effects and thresholds, as well as on the clear preferences of the communities affected, based on a thorough process for consultation.

Recommendations

5.3.1
The entire planning area is envisioned as "protected", in the sense that First Nations use the term, as described above. In practice, decisions on new economic developments (forestry, mining, tourism, etc.), or on the limitations imposed pending completion of the Broad Area Plan, would require the concurrence of the East Side First Nations Council (ESFNC). All resource development decisions that are made for the area would be assessed on the basis of whether they affect protection, in addition to the usual considerations. Existing licenses and developments would continue. This approach is similar to and mirrors the intent of the protection afforded the territorial lands of the five First Nations that signed the Protected Area Accord.

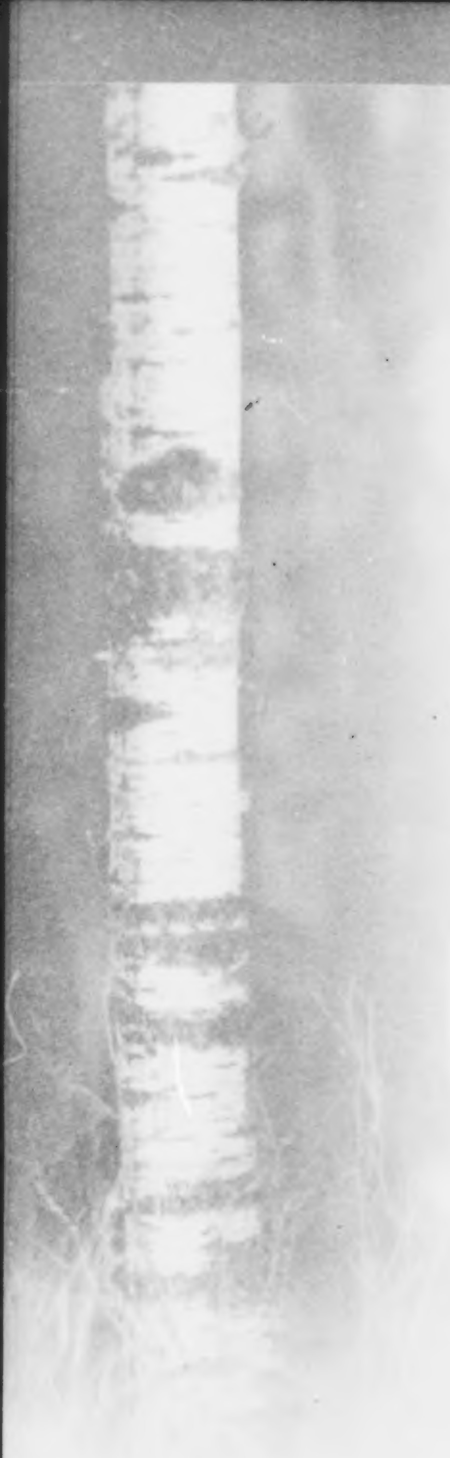
5.3.2
The Manitoba government play an active role with the federal government in establishing a UNESCO (U.N.) World Natural & Cultural Heritage Site on the east side. The site should include the land area encompassed in the application by the five First Nations signatory to the protected areas Accord, and Atikaki and Woodland Caribou Provincial Parks.

5.3.3
The Government of Manitoba request the East Side First Nations Council to identify specific levels of protection within the planning area, including protection conferred by Order-in-Council, and other forms of protection, as determined by the ESFNC. In so doing, the guidance and principles given by the Boreal Forest Conservation Framework should be considered. This would result in a portion of the planning area receiving the highest level of protection, consistent with the principles of the Canadian Boreal Initiative, and other areas identified to support sustainable communities and resource stewardship activities.

5.3.4
First Nations and the Métis Nation resident on the east side who have been denied traditional uses of designated protected areas within established parks, such as Atikaki, should be advised that they have these rights.

5.3.5
The process for evaluating and recommending areas to be formally protected by Order-in-Council should be accelerated and improved to ensure that First Nations, the Métis Nation resident on the east side, local communities and affected stakeholders are brought together and strive for a consensus, and that east side communities have a higher standing in the process.

5.3.6
The improved and accelerated review process should be followed for the eight large ASIs in Natural Region 4b, in order to ensure that these enduring



features are properly recognized and captured within the protected areas network. In addition, the improved review process should be used to evaluate and recommend the three smaller protected area proposals in Natural Region 4c.

5.3.7

The Government of Manitoba provides the necessary resources to complete these evaluations for ASIs in Natural Regions in 4b and 4c within the next two years, and updates its Action Plan for a Network of Protected Areas, including goals objectives and timelines, by the end of the current fiscal year.

5.3.8

The 1998 Memorandum of Understanding signed between the Manitoba Government and First Nations on how they will cooperate on protected areas should be extended and followed.

5.3.9

Two new land use categories are needed for designating protected areas under appropriate provincial legislation. One is needed to protect First Nations' and Métis Nation's sacred, historical and burial sites without disclosing the exact location. This is to protect the sites from damage and impacts. These do not need to be parks or ecological reserves. The other is recognition of First Nation Traditional Lands. These lands could be situated inside or outside of parks. This recognition would mean lands protected and cared for utilizing traditional First Nation and Métis Nation values, approaches and ecological knowledge, and with activities prescribed by local decision-making and control. Where there are shared traditional territories, First Nations would be invited to develop a common approach which would satisfy their mutual interests in the territory.

5.3.10

Individual protected areas in parks without management plans should have them developed, and a plan review process established within 2 years. Protected areas without management plans, outside of parks, should have them developed and a plan review process be established within two years. All protected areas should be reviewed against the potential impacts of climate change, fire, insects and disease, maintenance of ecological processes, surrounding incompatible land uses in the area, and appropriate strategies developed (e.g., Fire Smart Program in Jasper National Park). This formal periodic review should be supported by continued monitoring efforts that involve and employ local people.

5.3.11

The Government of Manitoba develop and utilize adaptive ecosystem based management standards and practices. As an example, measures are needed to protect water ways and bank (riparian) features.

5.3.12
The Government of Manitoba secure sufficient financial and human resources, including contributions from other partners (federal government, public & private sector, environmental non-government organizations) to permit east side First Nations to undertake and/or complete Traditional Ecological Mapping of their traditional territories.

5.3.13
With the fundamental recognition that accurate and proficient land use planning can only proceed with timely and topical information, and mindful of the equally fundamental application of the precautionary principle, the Government of Manitoba move with all possible dispatch to ensure that all necessary environmental data concerning the east side of Lake Winnipeg is both acquired or updated at the earliest possible opportunity.

6. Priority Issues & Recommendations

6.1 Working Groups: Constructing the Observations & Recommendations

At the Round Table meeting in December, 2003, a sub-committee was asked to consider the feasibility of establishing working groups to develop recommendations towards the Broad Area Plan. The concept was considered and approved by the ESRT and FNC in January 2004.

The purposes of the working groups were to:

- receive and analyze information on issues that the government had asked the ESRT and the FNC to include in the Broad Area Plan for the east side of Lake Winnipeg;
- consider all manner of public input on these issues, with particular attention paid to observations, suggestions and recommendations received from individuals and communities residing on the east side of Lake Winnipeg;
- consider the adequacy of existing data and information on current and potential planning initiatives and identify data and information gaps that could prevent initiatives from proceeding;
- undertake an in-depth consideration of the major issues and components of the Broad Area Plan; and
- prepare recommendations to the ESRT and the FNC on the issues of consideration before the working group so that they may be included in the Broad Area Plan.

Principles identified to guide the work and progress of the working groups were: Aboriginal, Treaty Rights and Traditional Ecological Knowledge would be respected and fully integrated; the current and future needs of people living on the east side would be respected and integrated; the environment

East Side
Planning Initiative

would be protected, with particular attention to protecting and maintaining the integrity of the boreal forest; and the potential impact of climate change on the environment of the east side of Lake Winnipeg, and the role of the ecology of the east side in mitigating its effects, would be accounted for.

Five working groups were created to assist the work of the ESRT and the FNC in recommending a Broad Area Plan for the east side of Lake Winnipeg. An Aboriginal Protocol Working Group, whose membership was limited to members of the First Nations Council, was established to develop a *Memorandum of Understanding* leading to a *Protocol of Agreement* that would be incorporated into the Broad Area Plan. An MOU was reached through negotiations between a subcommittee of the FNC committee and the Government of Manitoba. The *Protocol of Agreement,* the next step to be reached, will be followed throughout the ESPI process and will direct the implementation of recommendations arising out of the final Broad Area Plan.

Three Regional Working Groups (RWG), the north, central and south, were established to consider the relevance of a minimum of three plan-mandated issues associated with their geographic areas. (Plan-mandated issues are defined in Section 4 of this report and in the *Executive Summary of the East Side of Lake Winnipeg – Broad Area Planning Initiative: Phase 1 Final Report, Chapter 8; section 8.4).*

Each Regional Working Group was chaired by a member of the ESRT or FNC and limited to 12 members from the membership of the ESRT, FNC and ESAC.

A fifth working group, the Plan Co-ordination & Implementation Working Group (PCI), was established to:

- craft a 'Vision and Values' statement to guide the work of the working groups;
- consider and propose plan governance and implementation mechanisms for the Broad Area Plan;
- ensure that all recommendations are consistent with the three principles of the Broad Area Plan, in particular that the ecological integrity of the area and the protection and sustainable management of the boreal environment remain paramount;
- co-ordinate the information needs and work of the other working groups, in particular when addressing large scale issues such as regional conservation plans, transportation options and hydro corridors; and
- integrate the observations and recommendations of the three geographic working groups into a coherent and consistent series of recommendations to the Round Table and The First Nations Council.

The PCI was chaired by the Associate Chair. Its membership consisted of members of the ESRT, FNC and ESAC and included each RWG chair.

Nominations for the positions of chairs of the three Regional Working Groups were received by the ESPI Chair. Volunteers for membership in the RWG and PCI were also received (Aboriginal Protocol Working Group membership was predetermined). Once the ESRT and FNC were canvassed for volunteers and those volunteers placed, remaining memberships were made available to members of the ESAC. It was not considered essential that each member of the ESRT or the FNC be on a Working Group.

The Secretariat supported the Chairs of the Working Groups in carrying out their responsibilities. The Secretariat also ensured that progress reports were shared among the various working groups. All Working Groups completed their tasks. The Secretariat assembled Working Group submissions by issue and, following numerous review meetings, forwarded a draft of the status report to the ESRT and FNC for consideration and approval.

6.2 Aboriginal and Community Development

Mandate

"The east side round table review the status of community planning in the planning area and provide advice on ways and means to meet the needs for community plans."

"The east side round table provide advice on the relationship that should be established between the Broad Area Plan and local community plans and how they may be integrated into the large area plan for the east side of Lake Winnipeg."

"Must plan right with traditional knowledge. Must carefully consider how development takes place. Have to consider how we are part of the land."

(East Side Resident)

Poplar River, Black River and Hollow Water First Nations are in the process of developing land use plans for their traditional areas. Berens River First Nation and the Island Lake Tribal Council have indicated their intentions of doing the same. The communities of Manigotagan and Wasagamack are in the process of developing community plans. In spite of these initiatives, the majority of communities in the study area have not undertaken any form of planning, community or otherwise, even though they desire to do so.

There are, however, much broader community development issues than are captured by the mandate. For example, an overriding issue is the increasing population in the area and the lack of economic opportunities. Reasons for the lack of opportunity include a perception of policy and regulatory roadblocks preventing access to financing and an inability to acquire licenses for various activities, resulting in non-local ownership and cash outflows. The ESRT heard comments that there are too many regulations. Trapline regulations, for example, are too costly and restrictive.

While there is support for economic development on the east side, there is a frustration by residents at the lack of involvement and participation in decision-making with regard to: the granting of licenses and permits, the

realization of local economic opportunities and benefits, and the assurance that economic benefits are realized locally. While there appear to be many training opportunities for local residents to acquire the skills necessary to participate in economic development activities, there are few employment opportunities available.

In spite of apparent new opportunities for economic development on the east side, in partnership with industry and government (e.g., forestry, hydro, parks and ecotourism), there is a seeming lack of interest and support from government in pursuing potential partnerships.

The Memorandum of Understanding and resulting Protocol between First Nations on the east side of Lake Winnipeg and the Government of Manitoba will serve as a foundation for First Nations communities to become involved in economic development and land use decisions affecting their communities and traditional territories. A similar Protocol is recommended for the Métis Nation resident on the east side of Lake Winnipeg (see 5.2. Building Positive Relationships with Aboriginal Peoples: *Protocols of Agreement*). However, there is still a need to help all communities realize their full development potential.

Recommendations

6.2.1

All First Nation governments, the Métis Nation government representing Métis residents on the east side of Lake Winnipeg, and Northern Affairs communities in the east side planning area be provided the necessary financial and other resources to develop and produce plans for both their community and surrounding areas of interest, including Traditional Ecological Knowledge, before significant development expansion, new developments, or new licenses are issued in any potentially affected area.

6.2.2

Future development must be contingent on the establishment of processes and policies that ensure community involvement, training and employment and that resource allocation decisions involve local communities.

6.2.3

The Government of Manitoba provide capacity building initiatives and programs for people to participate more fully in resource activities in their traditional territories. Effective skills training programs must be developed to maximize local input in community economic development initiatives.

6.2.4

A formal assessment be done that would identify current and anticipated economic opportunities and skill sets that will be required to take advantage of these opportunities. Training programs such as business management skills must then be designed and delivered to meet these needs. Other programs could include emergency fire fighting, first aid, dangerous goods, presentation skills, emergency readiness, ecotourism, life skills, and proposal preparation.

6.2.5
Certification training programs be established for those occupations where certification is currently not required – e.g., tourism industry, timber harvesting, mining and commercial fishing.

6.2.6
The development of local enterprise and ownership be encouraged in addition to ensuring that there is local benefit, training and employment when the public or private sector is operating in the planning area.

6.2.7
The Government of Manitoba must support joint ventures / partnerships / local ownership creating the means for communities to gain benefits from resource initiatives and economic activities within communities and traditional territories. All economic development initiatives undertaken by the public or private sector within the planning area should ensure training and employment opportunities for local residents where possible.

6.2.8
First Nations, Métis and local community governments be given representation on Manitoba government boards, agencies, commissions and committees in order to gain more information and participate more actively with respect to planning and development issues that impact their traditional territories.

6.2.9
The Government of Manitoba commit to working with the ESFNC and First Nation governments to establish a natural resources management authority that would be operational within three years. The authority must be grounded on the principles of the seven generations and the structure and authorities of the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission is offered as a desired model.

6.2.10
The Government of Manitoba actively engage the Métis Nation resident on the east side of Lake Winnipeg and local communities in developing and enhancing their own conservation capacity and engagement in formal conservation practices and activities in the planning area.

6.3 Forest Resources

Mandate

"The east side round table provide advice on protecting the values of the boreal forest, its sustainability, and sustainable use including, but not limited to:

- *maintaining biological diversity and ecological functions;*
- *role in carbon storage;*
- *non-timber forest products;*
- *ecotourism; and*
- *sustainable forest harvesting activities.*

The province not permit any major new timber allocation beyond the annual allowable cut, as determined by Manitoba Conservation within Forest Management License #1 and historical allocation levels in Integrated Wood Supply Area #1, subject to annual public review and pending completion of the Broad Area Plan."

Forest resources on the east side are valuable. Commercial logging and processing operations constitute an important economic activity. The forest provides much more than wood; it is a habitat for hundreds of species and provides valuable ecological services (see Chapter 5.3). It is also the focus of interest for First Nations and the Métis Nation on the east side, because of their ancestral habitation of the area, their use of the forest for food, furs, medicines, spiritual and ceremonial purposes, and economic interests. The priority for the future will be on the sustainability of these values and services, and where there are commercial operations, on making the economic benefits available to local communities.

Tembec Industries Inc. is the principal private sector interest in forestry operations in the area. Its Evergreen Forest Management License Agreement operates on a 20-year term, and is renewed every 10 years for an additional 10-year term. This provides a minimum of 10 and a maximum of 20 years to the agreement.

The agreement assigns management and reforestation responsibility for Forest Management License #1 (FML#1) to Tembec, while the Government of Manitoba retains these responsibilities for timber sales in the Integrated Wood Supply Areas east and west (1 & 2) of Lake Winnipeg. Forest management operations in FML #1 are authorized through Environment Act licenses awarded to 10-year forest management plans. Since the expiration of the forest management plan in 1998, Manitoba has requested Tembec to seek *Environment Act* licenses on annual plans until the completion of the ESPI process.

Negotiations for an expanded harvest area to facilitate sawmill development are also on hold pending the completion of the ESPI process and the softwood lumber negotiations with the United States. Any expansion of the license area would require the renegotiation of the Forest Management License Agreement.

In the northern portion of the planning area, north of approximately the 53rd parallel, the forest inventory is over 30 years old. Absence of current data on timber species, volumes and operability limits commercial forest management and planning in this large area. Also, absence of a transportation infrastructure in the northern half of the planning area severely limits commercial forestry activities.

One goal of the Broad Area Plan is to achieve long-term sustainability of the forest as a habitat and a source of social and economic benefits. There are multiple users of the forest, and multiple stakeholders competing to have their interests met. Finding the right balance is an ongoing challenge. Forestry operations, local benefits, community growth and development and the transportation network are all linked. The development of an all-weather road north of Hollow Water First Nation to Bloodvein First Nation and beyond is seen by some as the key to expanding forestry operations further north. This will bring a full range of costs and benefits.

Ascertaining forest values is fundamental to this process. For example, the use of High Conservation Value Forest assessments is being adopted by numerous agencies and systems (such as the Forest Stewardship Council) as one means of determining significantly outstanding forests or forest attributes. The World Wildlife Fund-Canada has developed a checklist that facilitates a systematic assessment of high conservation values beginning globally and ending locally which could be used for the east side planning area. Subsequent management decisions would require the maintenance or enhancement of the defined attribute and a monitoring program would have to be established to assess the effectiveness of the measures employed.

A long-term threat to forest resources is an increased risk of large forest fires as the climate changes and the predicted drier summer conditions occur. This threat could escalate with increased recreation access in the future. Difficulties in accessing the more remote northern part of the planning area will restrict the response to major fires, but there could be considerable losses of forest as a result of global climate change.

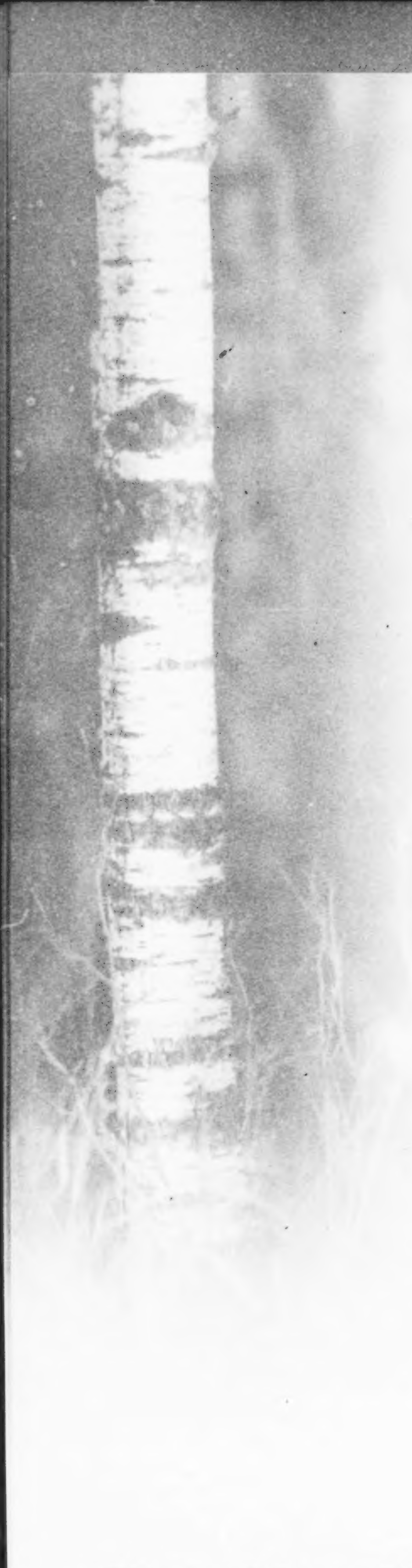
A principal concern repeatedly voiced had to do with the jobs and other economic benefits of forestry (and other resource activities) not staying in the communities. East side residents perceive that the economic benefits accrue elsewhere. Concerns were also frequently expressed that the best trees have already been removed, leaving only marginal timber for local residents to use.

Many comments addressed the lack of local and traditional ecological knowledge used when making decisions about resource uses, including forestry. Concerns included insufficient consultation, but also a lack of input on the cultural and spiritual value that local people place on the forest.

A common theme in the comments was that while local residents are pleased that they are being asked for their views, there is a belief that their input won't matter when decisions are made, or that decisions have already been made, and the community visits are just window dressing. There are also local demands for more training of young people in basic forestry practices and other resource development businesses.

"All communities in the southern portion of the study area have been developed around logging. We need logging and mining on the east side. Logging is much more environmentally sensitive today."

(East Side Resident)



Generally, the comments from communities indicate support for development that is sustainable, as long as there is local input to the process and benefits accrue to communities directly.

Recommendations:

6.3.1
To ensure sustainable forestry practices are maintained on the east side of Lake Winnipeg, all commercial forestry activities are encouraged to operate according to standards and procedures established or recommended by management and forest certification systems.

6.3.2
When Manitoba renegotiates the FML #1, it does so through the East Side First Nations Council ensuring more timely opportunities for input. When stakeholders operate outside FML-1, such as within the Integrated Wood Supply Area #1, First Nations governments and the Métis Nation resident on the east side of Lake Winnipeg must be consulted and accommodated.

6.3.3
Provisions are needed for royalty, revenue sharing or other benefits for First Nation and Métis governments on the east side of Lake Winnipeg for timber removed from the planning area.

6.3.4
A comprehensive Forest Resource Inventory (FRI) should be completed for the entire planning area to guide the review of commercial forestry expansion, new developments, or new licenses proposed within the planning area.

6.3.5
Using assessment tools such as the High Conservation Value Forest method, identify and quantify the values contained within the forests in the planning area. Such an assessment could address environmental, social, health, Aboriginal and treaty rights, cultural, and economic factors. Models such as the Whitefeather example in Ontario could be used in developing forest plans for each First Nation, commercial forest interest, and local community.

6.3.6
The development of local enterprise and ownership should be encouraged, in addition to ensuring that there is local benefit, training and employment when companies based outside the planning area are operating within the planning area. There may be alternatives to selling timber within a local market, such as bartering, trading, etc., that should be explored.

6.3.7
Alternatives to conventional forest uses be explored and developed, such as using the forest for carbon storage, non-timber forest products, biodiversity services, and other non-forestry uses. For example, there may be economic value in the carbon storage capacity of the forest for emissions trading purposes.

6.3.8

Genetically modified or otherwise "improved" trees should not be used in the planning area, as there is a concern over the eventual decrease in genetic diversity that can result.

6.3.9

Affected First Nations, Métis and local governments and affected stakeholders should be consulted and accommodated prior to the planning or decommissioning of forest roads within the plan area.

6.3.10

Any permitted or licensed forestry development or activity must investigate, identify and mitigate impacts on other licensed or permitted activities such as trapping, wild rice propagation, lodges and outfitters, and others. The Government of Manitoba shall work with the East Side First Nations Council to establish a process to ensure sufficient communications between license holders and provide a mechanism to resolve any conflict or disputes that may arise due to competing licensed interests. Conflict resolution by a third party mediator could be a consideration.

6.4 Transportation

Mandate

"The east side round table provide advice and input on the options (e.g., north-south versus east-west route alternatives) in the east side transportation network study to be conducted by Manitoba Transportation and Government Services. Manitoba Transportation and Government Services work with the east side planning secretariat and directly with the east side round table to ensure the effective and efficient co-ordination of planning and communication activities in the planning area."

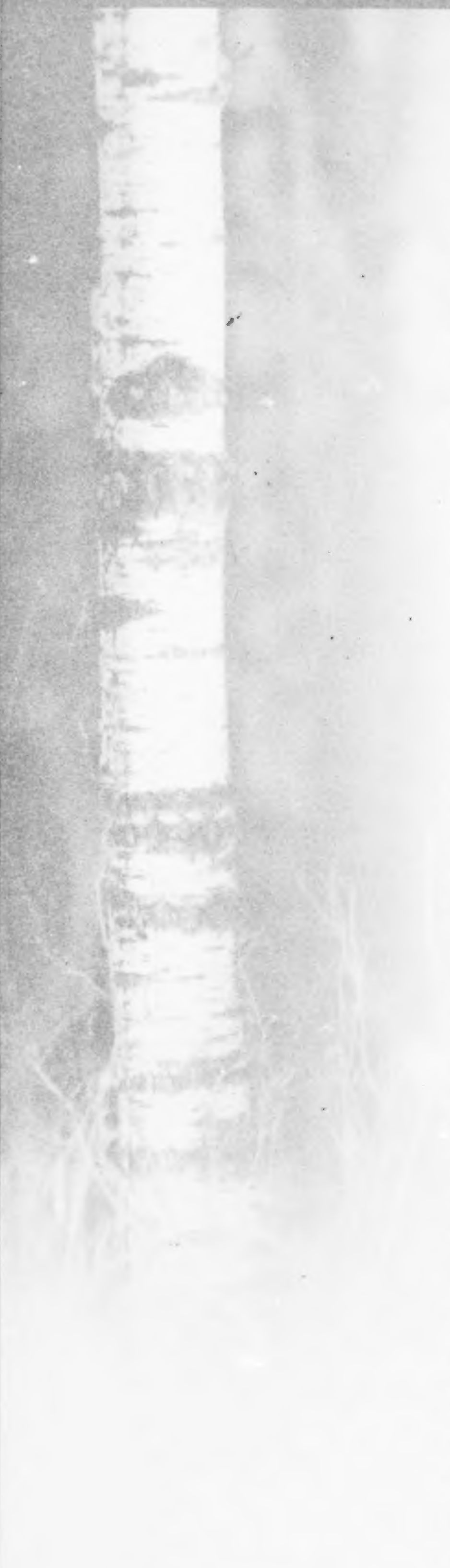
"The east side round table provide advice on the proposed transportation assessment work plan of Manitoba Transportation and Government Services which will include the planning, consultation, upgrading and construction of the road to the Bloodvein community."

In August 1999, Manitoba Transportation retained Dillon Consulting Limited to undertake a study to look at the feasibility of developing an all-weather road system to improve access to remote communities on the east side of Lake Winnipeg. All ESPI communities are located within the Manitoba Transportation study area. The study was to be a preliminary, cost-benefit assessment to determine if more comprehensive considerations of an all-weather road development in the study area were justified.

In a report prepared by Dillon Consulting entitled East Side of Lake Winnipeg All *Weather Road Justification and Scoping Study (August 2000),* two all-weather road route scenarios, with different points of origin, were evaluated. In one scenario, all east side communities would be connected from the south

"The construction and maintenance of a local airport would bring much needed jobs in the area as well as bring the costs of goods and services down to acceptable levels."

(East Side Resident)



via Manigotagan. In the other, the northern communities would be connected from the west via Norway House/Cross Lake with a separate connection from Manigotagan serving only the southern communities.

The report's general conclusion was that an all-weather road in the east side of Lake Winnipeg could be justified for many communities on the basis of long-term transportation cost savings alone. Additional conclusions of the study are as follows:

- The existing winter road system provides marginally acceptable service to communities;
- Total costs of the winter road system are rising due to growing populations in the region and increasing demands;
- The majority of communities in the region appear to support an all-weather road system as a means of reducing the cost of living, enhancing travel opportunities, and improving emergency, health, education and social services;
- Communities have concerns about the impact of an all-weather road and the resulting resource development on lifestyles, land use, the environment and control over their future destiny;
- Rapid population growth in the study area justifies the all-weather road project for many of the communities based on long-term transportation cost; and
- Resource development projects, potentially supported by an all-weather road system, include expanded forestry operations, mining exploration opportunities, hydro development, and enlarged fisheries and tourism.

In February 2001, Paskanake Project Management provided a review of the findings in the Dillon report for Whelan Enns Associates Inc. It questioned the report's overall justification levels for the all-weather road scenarios and suggested the level and degree of community support presented for an all-weather road, with respect to the majority of affected communities, was overstated.

In 2001, Dillon Consulting prepared a second report for Manitoba Transportation entitled Work Plan to Develop an All-Weather Road Network for the East Side of Lake Winnipeg – Final Report (Dillon Consulting Limited and N.D. Lea, October, 2001). It presented a planning approach and overall work plan to design and service east side of Lake Winnipeg communities with an all-weather road network.

In developing the work plan, the following major factors were identified:

- size of the study area;
- access to remote communities;
- engineering challenges;
- social and environmental issues;

- economics;
- Federal/Provincial co-operation and regulatory approvals; and
- interests of multiple stakeholders.

Two work plan components were addressed:

- Component 1: consisting of two related work programs described below:

  Component 1a: Work program to upgrade the existing 70 km of forestry road, known as the Rice River Road, to provincial standards.

  Component 1b: Work program to extend the existing road by approximately 10 km to connect to the community of Bloodvein. This will include the construction of a new bridge over the Bloodvein River. When completed, the Government of Manitoba would assume ownership of the entire road as a Provincial Road.
- Component 2: Work program to undertake a Regional Transportation Network Study to confirm basic network concepts (east-west vs. north-south) and to identify preferred routing options for an all-weather road network to service the major communities on the east side of Lake Winnipeg to the north of the community of Bloodvein.

The planning process for Component 1a of the work program, upgrading the existing Rice River Road, proposes the following:

- a functional study to upgrade the existing road to provincial standards;
- identifying and addressing environmental issues;
- identifying and addressing stream crossing needs;
- obtaining all regulatory approvals;
- completing the functional study; and
- completing a detail design.

The planning process for Component 1b of the work plan, the extension of the existing Rice River Road to the community of Bloodvein, consists of functional routing and environmental studies. The following is proposed:

- seeking input from the community of Bloodvein as well as stakeholders;
- seeking input on Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK);
- undertaking exploratory surveys for special environmental components; and
- paying special attention to the crossing of the Bloodvein River and its tributaries.

The planning process for Component 2 of the work plan, undertaking the Regional Transportation Network Study for the large area north of Bloodvein, proposes the following:

- corridor network concept confirmation (e.g., east-west and north-south alternatives), taking into consideration transportation needs;

> ***"Oxford Lake was closed for fishing due to high transportation costs to market. We were throwing away our catch because there was no transportation to market. It is a waste of time, energy and fish."***
>
> (East Side Resident)

environmental impacts; social, health, cultural and economic impacts; and cumulative impacts;

- corridor selection (east-west vs. north-south);
- detailed functional planning and detailed environmental assessment of individual road segments;
- regulatory approval of each road segment; and
- detailed design of route segments.

Manitoba Transportation has retained UMA Engineering Ltd. to undertake a study based on Components 1a and 1b of the work plan. It is anticipated that the consultant will be forwarding its report to Manitoba Transportation by the end of 2004.

While roads can have both positive and negative implications relative to economic, social and environmental considerations, it can generally be concluded that there is support for upgrading the existing Rice River Road and its extension to the community of Bloodvein, as well as support from most communities for a regional all-weather road network beyond Bloodvein.

With respect to Berens River First Nation, a letter dated July 30, 2002, to Mr. Phil Fontaine, Chair of the East Side Round Table, on behalf of the Berens River Chief and Council, stated that the construction of an all-weather road is the highest priority in terms of developing the east side of Lake Winnipeg. The letter went on to say that an all-weather road must come first before other large-scale developments are considered. A subsequent Band Council Resolution, dated October 10, 2002, stated that "the Berens River First Nation Chief and Council is in agreement with the Berens River Mayor and Community Council that the number one priority for Berens River is the construction of an all-weather road to Berens River". It was resolved that the community of Berens River be included in the planning component of the extension of the Rice River Road. At the January 17, 2003 ESRT meeting, the Round Table received a formal request (presentation and letter) from representatives of the Berens River First Nation, asking that Berens River be included in the Rice River Study and not in the Regional Transportation Network Study as proposed by Manitoba Transportation. Community representatives also attended several ESRT meetings to promote and discuss this request.

Concerns expressed about additional access and all-weather road development included:

- the lack of knowledge about the values being assessed and the impact that access and the influx of people can have on these (e.g., wildlife – particularly caribou, fisheries, water quality, traditional gathering sites, spiritual sites);
- the risk of introducing exotics and invasive species;

- the need for communities to be ready with business and other proposals;
- the introduction of gangs, alcohol, drugs and their destruction on lives (others suggested these influences were already in communities);
- the need for increased policing, signage and safety features;
- the need to compensate trappers who might be impacted economically by route locations;
- the potential negative economic impact on remote lodges that stand to lose their marketability if they were suddenly no longer remote;
- the potential loss of ferry services to Bloodvein and barge services to Berens River and Poplar River and the resulting loss of existing relationship with west side businesses in Riverton and Gimli;
- the potential reduction of air services to communities and associated maintenance (It was felt that air strips will always be required for medical services and that the development of an all-weather road should not diminish government's responsibilities for good air service.); and
- the possible use of federal funding to communities as a source for funding all-weather road studies and development (It was felt that federal dollars existed to be put to training programs for local people to develop an all-weather road. This would create local employment. This was evident by the Throne Speech, which called for more assistance for Aboriginal communities. It was felt that funding could be accessed through infrastructure programs and gas tax rebates.)

Communities also indicated that the conditions of their internal road systems pose health and safety concerns that need to be dealt with on a constant basis. It was also suggested that the regional transportation study was too narrowly focused on roads and that a more comprehensive approach, including alternate transportation means and services is required.

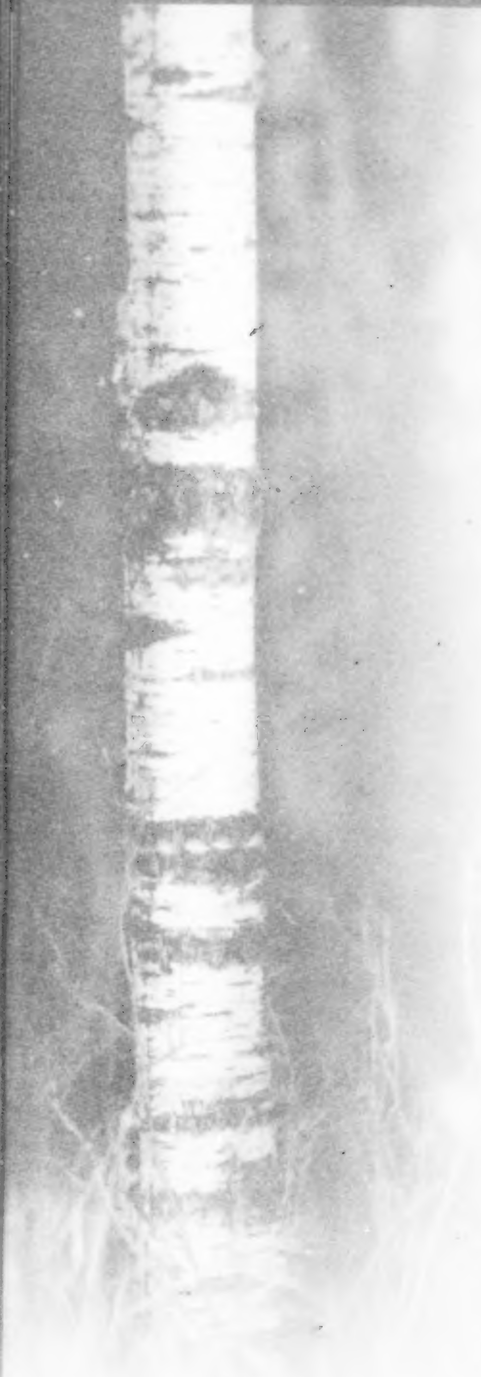
> **"An all-weather road has all sorts of advantages including training for heavy equipment operators."**
>
> (East Side Resident)

Recommendations

The following recommendations concern Components 1a and 1b of Manitoba Transportation's *Work Plan to Develop an All-Weather Road Network for the East Side of Lake Winnipeg – Final Report (Dillon, 2001):*

6.4.1
Manitoba Transportation proceed with its proposed planning process to undertake the Rice River Road upgrade and its extension to the community of Bloodvein on the following conditions:

- Manitoba Transportation conduct a thorough review of routes in collaboration with directly affected First Nation, Métis Nation resident on the east side of Lake Winnipeg, NACC and non-Aboriginal communities;
- The final route selection follow from results of an independent environmental assessment of alternatives;



- The environmental impact assessment to include: as proposed in 5.1, an Aboriginal and Treaty Rights Impact Assessment, and a multiplier effect projection; and
- Locating the Bloodvein crossing so as to avoid Longbody Creek and locating a road corridor as close as possible to the lakeshore to minimize environmental impacts.

6.4.2
Manitoba Transportation provide the UMA engineering study to the ESPI secretariat for distribution to and consideration by the East Side First Nations Council and ESAC.

6.4.3
Manitoba Transportation amend its proposed planning process to upgrade the Rice River Road, by extending it to the community of Berens River.

6.4.4
Manitoba Transportation apply for an environmental license for the upgrade of the Rice River road presenting the final road alternative to the Manitoba Clean Environment Commission.

The following recommendations concern Component 2 of Manitoba Transportation's *Work Plan to Develop an All-Weather Road Network for the East Side of Lake Winnipeg – Final Report (Dillon, 2001):*

6.4.5
Manitoba Transportation undertake an amended Regional Transportation Network Study to consider other means of access, such as rail, bridges, dirigibles, hovercraft and ferries, to communities on the east side of Lake Winnipeg in addition to an all-weather road option.

6.4.6
Consider existing case studies on the impact of road access on remote communities and through wilderness areas in order to better understand both positive and negative environmental and social impacts, and to prepare mitigation measures where needed.

6.4.7
Manitoba Transportation facilitate independent research leading to a comprehensive understanding of all social, environmental, economic and cumulative affects consequences of an all-weather road system on the east side. As identified in recommendation 5.1.13, the required Environmental Impact Assessment must include a comprehensive Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and Traditional Lands Impact Assessment. This research should also include an examination of alternative transportation routes and methods and must proceed in advance of all-weather road development proposals beyond the Rice River road.

6.4.8
The East Side First Nations Council be involved in the review of road corridor alternatives and prior to final route selection, Manitoba Transportation apply for an environmental license and present the final road alternative to the Clean Environmental Commission.

6.4.9
Prior to any construction, regardless of road standard, Manitoba Transportation and other road developers develop road management plans for all roads. These plans would include standard options, location options, environmental impact mitigation plans, decommissioning plans and access restriction plans. The process of road management planning should also have a thorough public consultation process built in.

6.4.10
An environmental impact assessment address the cumulative impact of rights-of-way for both an all-weather road and Hydro Bi-Pole III.

6.4.11
Ferry and barge services to east side communities remain commissioned and unchanged until alternatives are in place, at which time, private ownership could be encouraged as an option to services not publicly owned.

6.4.12
An economic assessment be undertaken to evaluate potential impacts that might occur as a result of the loss of existing business relationships between east Lake Winnipeg and west Lake Winnipeg businesses through the decommissioning of ferry/barge services.

6.4.13
The on-going maintenance and upgrading of airports, or the development of new airports, will remain a government responsibility and priority and not be at the expense of any work on an all-weather road.

6.4.14
Prior to the establishment of new all-weather road developments, and with local community involvement, comprehensive plans should be developed to protect wildlife (refuge corridors) that could be impacted by increasing road access.

6.4.15
Any transportation development or activity with a permit or license to proceed or operate must investigate, identify and mitigate impacts on other licensed or permitted activities such as trapping, wild rice propagation, lodges and outfitters, and others. The Government of Manitoba must work with the East Side First Nations Council to establish a process to ensure sufficient communications between license holders and provide a mechanism to resolve any conflict or disputes that may arise due to competing licensed interests. Conflict resolution by a third party mediator could be a consideration.

6.5 Tourism and Recreation

Mandate

"The east side round table consider and address the opportunities and acceptability of ecotourism and tourist development in the planning area."

It is generally agreed that there is a high potential for tourism and recreation in the planning area. Recreational opportunities are especially high for wilderness and ecotourism, cultural tourism, and backcountry camping and canoeing. Maps prepared for the ESPI show dozens of locations of campgrounds, outfitter camps and caches, and numerous commercial lodges throughout the southern portion of the planning area. There are fewer facilities north of the Poplar/Nanowin Rivers Park Reserve. Most of these facilities are focused on hunting and fishing activities, require air access, and are aimed at a clientele able to afford it. Licenses to lodges and outfitter camps are issued by the Licensing Advisory Committee, a committee internal to government, formed under the *Resource Tourism Operator's Act.*

The opportunities for further development of tourism and recreation in the planning area have not yet been considered in detail by the Round Table. This is an area for further elaboration in the development of the Broad Area Plan. To date, indications are that further development of this potential is wanted and needed, and that the focus should be on creating improved local capacity and benefits. More tourism development in the area is strongly linked to the transportation network. More local benefits in this sector would flow from the development of all-weather roads. However, there is a great concern over the creation of new cottage developments, because these tend to be followed by incremental demands for improvements in services and access. There are also concerns that access could impact remote tourism opportunities. If tourism is to yield economic development opportunities for the area residents, careful consideration must be given to how access can be coordinated with the tourism potential.

During the community visits, as reported in *What We Heard,* there were several references to the need for tourism and ecotourism development. There is an awareness of the attraction that the planning area holds for tourists, and the potential for business in this sector. Many submissions emphasized the need for jobs. There is a perception that local businesses are refused licenses for tourist facilities by the Licensing Advisory Committee, while larger companies from outside the region obtain them. Some local residents feel disadvantaged by this.

Recommendations

6.5.1

Decisions on development of tourism facilities should be tied into other decisions on infrastructure, such as roads and other services. Better coordination of these decisions is needed in the placement of tourism developments. This is particularly important if tourism developments are spurred by the Aboriginal Tourism Strategy being developed by the province.

6.5.2

A local decision-making mechanism for approval of new or expanded tourism facilities is needed, and must be based on joint governance arrangements between First Nations, local communities and the province. The Licensing Advisory Committee should seek advice from a local decision-making mechanism. The criteria for making these judgments need to be clear and complete explanations given to applicants when permits and licenses are turned down. A process for resolving disputes and appealing decisions is also required.

6.5.3

The expansion of opportunities for non-consumptive forms of recreation, such as outdoor education and ecotourism, in addition to the existing hunting and fishing opportunities, is encouraged. Provision should be made for the hiring and training of significant numbers of local residents for advancement in the industry.

6.5.4

Provision for hiring and training people for advancement in the industry from the local community must be a condition of licenses and permits in future tourism facilities. Training programs should provide accreditation to recognized standards and certification.

6.5.5

Provide First Nation, Métis and local communities with better access to information and training in tourism development, marketing and entrepreneurship.

6.5.6

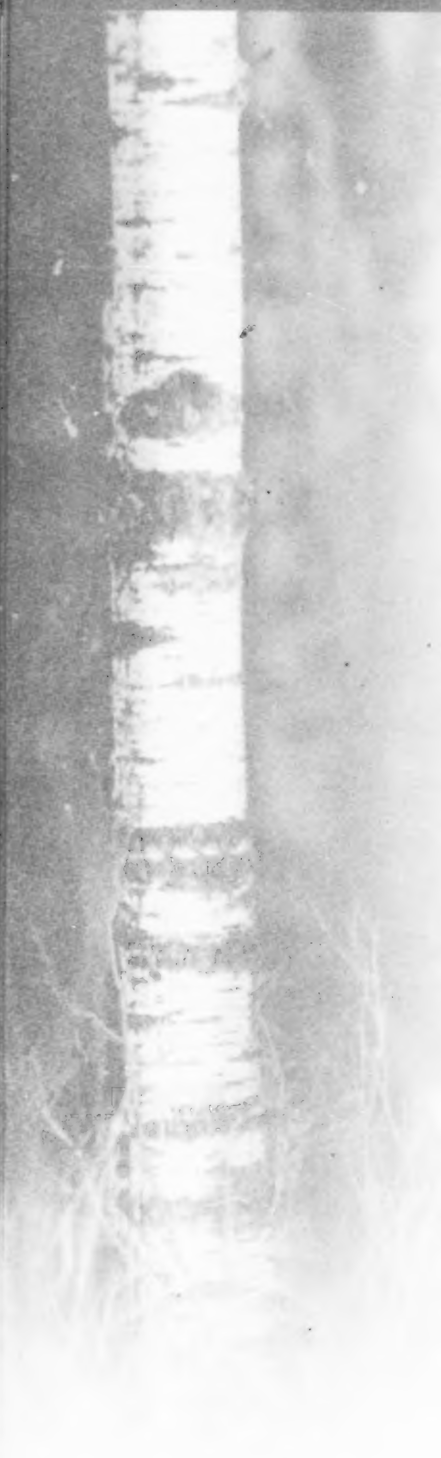
Because of potentially significant environmental impacts, new cottage developments must be subject to rigorous environmental impact assessments. New road locations to cottage developments should not negatively affect ecotourism and entrepreneurship opportunities.

6.5.7

The Government of Manitoba support a comprehensive Aboriginal tourism strategy and provide resources for its implementation.

6.5.8

The Government of Manitoba support the creation of a Manitoba First Nations Tourism Group with financial and technical assistance to, in part, facilitate their participation in the areas of ownership in lodges, outposts, camps, etc., and in training and advocacy. Provision for hiring and training of members of First Nations communities for advancement in the industry should be a condition of licenses and permits in future tourism facilities.



6.5.9
Any tourism and recreation development or activity with a permit or license to operate must investigate, identify and mitigate impacts on licensed or permitted activities such as trapping, wild rice propagation, lodges and outfitters, and others. The Government of Manitoba shall work with the East Side First Nations Council to establish a process to ensure sufficient communications between license holders and provide a mechanism to resolve any conflict or disputes that may arise due to competing licensed interests. Conflict resolution by a third party mediator could be a consideration.

6.5.10
The East Side First Nations Council develop a clear consultation process regarding the allocation of non-resident big game licenses as the current process appears to be unfair to local entrepreneurs.

6.6 Hydro Transmission Corridor

Mandate

"As part of the planning process, Manitoba Hydro co-ordinate any future transmission line communications and public consultation activities with the east side round table. The east side round table provide regional guidance relative to Manitoba Hydro in regards to future electrical transmission facilities within the planning area. Manitoba Hydro work with the East Side Planning Initiative Secretariat and, directly, with the East Side Round Table to ensure the effective and efficient co-ordination of planning and communication activities in the planning area."

Consideration of the proposed Manitoba Hydro transmission corridor was initially defined as a "procedural" mandate to ensure co-operation and co-ordination between the East Side Planning Initiative and Manitoba Hydro in approaches to east side of Lake Winnipeg communities. Community information sharing and consultation sessions quickly refocused the issue to the potential location of the BiPole III transmission corridor proposed by Manitoba Hydro. This was due, in part, to a number of community visits undertaken by Manitoba Hydro, immediately prior to the first round of east side community visits organized by ESPI. The purpose of the east side community visits initiated by Manitoba Hydro was to gauge public interest and reaction to the possible location of a hydroelectric transmission corridor down the length of the east side of Lake Winnipeg. Manitoba Hydro had not completed its full round of community visits when, by mutual agreement between Manitoba Hydro and ESPI, the former agreed to suspend all community information sessions/consultations until ESPI had completed its first round of community visits.

A wide range of issues and concerns were broached in submissions to ESPI from east side communities and residents, numerous stakeholders and Manitoba citizens on the subject of hydroelectric transmission. They ranged from what ESPI has termed "legacy issues" – expressions of distrust and resentment over past relationships between First Nations and Métis nation peoples and Manitoba Hydro to practical concerns about the absence, adequacy and cost of electrical energy in many communities, to more macro-level policy considerations of the vital importance of hydroelectricity in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and mitigating the onslaught of climate change.

It is most interesting to note that these macro-level policy issues (e.g. the relatively clean energy of hydroelectric power generation, the onslaught of climate change and the questionable wisdom of our over-reliance on fossil fuels) rarely emerged in our public discussions, nor was any public consideration given to the economic impact and benefits of the sale and export of Manitoba energy to other jurisdictions. In light of the current government's commitment to promoting "clean energy" alternatives to the unsustainable consumption of fossil fuels, and the economic advantages to be gained from the export of Manitoba energy, the Government of Manitoba would do well to substantially increase its public communications on this issue and engage its citizens in a broader debate than is currently evident. Wind power and solar energy production are fast becoming viable alternatives to traditional, high-impact energy sources and are deserving of public consideration, especially as they pertain to the east side of Lake Winnipeg.

> ***"We have heard from Hydro before. They came to us, but did not give us enough time to respond. You have to give us more time. There is a lack of information provided by Hydro for the community to adequately respond or participate. We do not want a poor consultation process."***
>
> **(East Side Resident)**

East Side Round Table members were impressed with the breadth and depth of concerns expressed by residents of the east side of Lake Winnipeg respecting past relationships with Manitoba Hydro. Many compelling statements and arguments were put before the East Side Round Table and First Nations Council members asking for assurances that local communities would benefit economically from the installation of transmission lines on the east side. Equally, concerns were expressed about the impact that such installations might have on the natural environment – from the introduction and leaching of pesticides into water tables and courses, to the disruption of traditional activities such as hunting and trapping. There were few communities visited by the East Side Round Table and First Nations Council members that did not have strong opinions and concerns about the possible future location of a hydro transmission corridor on the east side of Lake Winnipeg.

Recommendations:

In considering all the arguments and interests placed before it on the issue of the possible location of a hydro transmission corridor, the East Side Round Table and First Nations Council offer the following preliminary observations and considerations.

Manitoba Hydro has a legacy issue with which it has to contend. When the topic of Manitoba Hydro or the issue of the possible east side location of BiPole III was raised in communities through the ESPI process, reaction to the

corporation and the proposed transmission line corridor on the east side of Lake Winnipeg was either uniformly negative, or contained significant overtones of mistrust and suspicion. Frequent comments were made to past practices and the perceived unwillingness or inability of Manitoba Hydro to fulfill commitments – be they related to employment creation or compensation for negative impact on livelihoods or the adjacent environment.

East Side Working Group members who considered this issue were consensual in their opinion that the transmission corridor not proceed unless and until Manitoba Hydro can clearly indicate that there are clear and permanent economic benefits to be accrued by communities on the east side. It was also observed by Working Group members that there may be a perceptual discrepancy in designating a significant part of the east side of Lake Winnipeg as a United Nations World Heritage site only to have a major hydro transmission corridor traversing it.

6.6.1
All future discussions, consultations and negotiations between Manitoba Hydro and First Nations and Aboriginal communities on the east side of Lake Winnipeg be subject to, as and when they are developed, the *Protocols of Agreement* with First Nations and the Métis Nation resident on the east side of Lake Winnipeg respecting the Broad Area Plan for the East Side of Lake Winnipeg between the Government of Manitoba and First Nations governments and Aboriginal communities located on the east side of Lake Winnipeg.

6.6.2
A comprehensive *Aboriginal Treaty Rights and Traditional Lands Impact Assessment* be completed as part of the Environmental Impact Assessments that must be undertaken as part of the possible location of the BiPole III line on the east side of Lake Winnipeg. Should such an assessment indicate that impacts are anticipated, and compensation or revenue – sharing is required, it is further recommended that Manitoba Hydro reach an agreement-in-principle on compensation, or such revenue – sharing as a component of, and prior to, the conclusion of the Environmental Impact Assessments.

6.6.3
Manitoba Hydro identify the location of all potential corridor routes for transmission lines, including those external to the east side of Lake Winnipeg Planning Area.

6.6.4
Should the location of a BiPole III hydro transmission corridor on the east side of Lake Winnipeg continue to be considered as a viable option by Manitoba Hydro that it expend the resources necessary, including the provision of resources to the communities themselves to ensure that communities on the east side of Lake Winnipeg are fully informed, involved and consulted on all

components of the intended proposal, including the likely impact of the corridor on the nominated UNESCO World Heritage site.

6.6.5
With respect to the possible location of a BiPole III hydro transmission corridor on the east side of Lake Winnipeg, that should it proceed, Manitoba Hydro provide assurances that, wherever possible, the corridor be adjacent to other vehicle transportation corridors, unless an environment impact assessment determines this is not advisable. Where hydro and transportation corridors diverge, there will be no road access to the hydro transmission corridor.

6.6.6
With respect to the possible location of a BiPole III hydro transmission corridor on the east of Lake Winnipeg, that should it proceed, Manitoba Hydro provide assurances to local communities that employment opportunities will be provided and local resources utilized on a priority basis.

6.6.7
With respect to the possible location of a BiPole III hydro transmission corridor on the east of Lake Winnipeg, that should it proceed, Manitoba Hydro provide assurances that where the transmission lines cross recreation or navigable rivers that transmission line support pylons will be located so as to be hidden from normal sight lines on or adjacent to the river, and, should environmental assessments prove such is feasible, that the transmission lines corridors be buried at key river crossings.

6.6.8
As concerns have been expressed about the potential negative impact on human and animal health caused by the possible creation of magnetic fields in the area of transmission corridors with operating hydro transmission lines, any HVDC transmission lines must maintain a minimum five hundred metre distance from settlements and residences. Manitoba Hydro should make available to the public all current research on this issue. Should such research indicate that there are possible negative effects upon human health, Manitoba Hydro must inform residents potentially exposed to these corridors of what steps the agency plans to take to eliminate the possible health hazard.

6.6.9
Any hydro transmission development or activity with a permit or license to operate must investigate, identify and mitigate impacts on licensed or permitted activities such as trapping, wild rice propagation, lodges and outfitters, and others. The Government of Manitoba shall work with the East Side First Nations Council to establish a process to ensure sufficient communications between license holders and provide a mechanism to resolve any conflict or disputes that may arise due to competing licensed interests. Conflict resolution by a third party mediator could be a consideration.

6.6.10
The Government of Manitoba encourage and mandate Manitoba Hydro to fully and publicly explore the viability of locating alternative energy source infrastructure (wind and solar) on the east side of Lake Winnipeg and create opportunities for east side residents and all Manitobans to benefit from these low-impact energy sources.

6.7 Mining Issues

Mandate

"The east side Round Table consider the potential for mineral development and its acceptability within the various land use zones that may be designated in the planning area.

Mining exploration and development in the planning area continue as per existing established public consultation requirements, environmental review and licensing requirements and other required reviews and permitting processes and procedures."

Mineral exploration and development within the planning area is manageable within established procedures and approval mechanisms, but requires more attention to local communications and co-operation. Exploration is ongoing to a limited extent, and the mineralized belts are generally well identified. Exploration for diamonds is occurring in the northern part of the planning area, and extensively just north of the planning area boundary. Gold exploration is occurring just north of Red Sucker Lake. An existing mine near Bissett operates periodically. Information sources, maps and reports are available online through the Manitoba government website.

Although the mineral potential and the geology of the southern area are relatively well known and developed, this is not the case with the central and northern areas. Mineral exploration within these areas has been sporadic. This is due, in part, to the relative remoteness and poor access to these areas. It is also due to the fact that the geology of these areas has only been mapped on a reconnaissance level and therefore, it is not known in sufficient detail to prompt intensive exploration. Even though there are mineral occurrences in these areas, they remain among the least prospected in the province, and the mineral potential is poorly understood.

A process has been developed between the government and the minerals sector through which new protected area proposals are screened. This involves a group of mining industry members and other participants, who examine Areas of Special Interest (ASIs) from the perspective of the mineral sector, and determine if a protected area in that location withdraws mineral resources significant to the industry. Where no conflicts arise, there is a green light from the sector. Where conflicts arise, a resolution is negotiated, which sometimes requires more detailed information about the mineral potential and the ASI. This process has successfully screened the ASIs within the planning area.

In March 2000, the mineral sector, the Government of Manitoba, First Nations groups and other stakeholders developed a Manitoba Minerals Guideline containing the principles that should be followed for building relationships and creating opportunities during the mineral development process. This guide set a standard for how the mining industry and communities on the east side should be co-operating.

Active mineral claims give certain land access and occupation rights to the holder. People in local communities may not realize that these rights of occupation of land by mineral exploration companies are included when mineral claims are staked. Sudden unannounced or unexpected activity by an exploration company near a small community can surprise the local residents. These surprises can and should be avoided through the use of the Manitoba Minerals Guideline.

Despite the Minerals Guideline cited above, there were several observations from communities that mineral exploration activity was occurring in their areas and they had not been informed, and that there was no evidence of local employment opportunities. There were local concerns that mineral exploration may affect trap lines and restrict traditional access to the land. Also, concerns were expressed that access roads used by licensed wild rice producers could be damaged by heavy mining machinery.

It must be recalled that this planning process has not advanced far enough to enable identification of specific land use zones, other than existing protected areas, where mineral exploration and development are excluded.

Recommendations

6.7.1
The East Side First Nations Council develop a consultation process regarding potentially affected peoples and licensees prior to the approval of mineral exploration programs, permits and staking activity.

6.7.2
Mineral exploration and development is an acceptable activity within the planning area, provided that the proposed East Side First Nations Council plays an oversight role in consultation and approval mechanisms, decisions are taken on a case by case basis, and there is local benefit from the activity.

6.7.3
The Manitoba Minerals Guideline (2000) principles for community consultation, information sharing, protecting environmental integrity, policy review and development and creating opportunities be accepted as the starting point for guiding relationships between the minerals industry and communities on the east side of Lake Winnipeg.

6.7.4
The onus for using the Guidelines falls on both the mining companies and the communities. Even with best efforts, not everyone in a community may be satisfied with the information they receive about exploration or mining activities. As much effort needs to be made within the community to share this information, as is made by the industry to make it available.

6.7.5
Any mining development or mining exploration activity with a permit or license to operate must investigate, identify and mitigate impacts on licensed or permitted activities such as trapping, wild rice propagation, lodges and outfitters, and others. The Government of Manitoba shall work with the East Side First Nations Council to establish a process to ensure sufficient communications between license holders and provide a mechanism to resolve any conflict or disputes that may arise due to competing licensed interests. Conflict resolution by a third party mediator could be a consideration.

6.8 Additional Significant Issues

Mandate

"The government should seek the advice of the round table on any significant issue which might arise during the course of the planning process."

Research Needs

In the course of this planning activity, and as noted in Section 5.3, it has become evident that several areas of ongoing research are needed to further support Broad Area Planning, and refine management approaches and techniques. One prominent concern is the lack of natural resource data available for the planning area north of the 53rd parallel. There, species inventories, lake surveys, forest inventory and historic and archaeological investigations are all needed to develop better information to support land use decisions. More information is also needed on threatened or sensitive species such as woodland caribou.

A more complete assessment of the research needs in the planning area will be part of the ongoing development of the Broad Area Plan. At this stage, the need for further research is noted.

6.8.1
To assist in developing a better understanding of research needs on the east side, it is recommended that a group of advisors be assembled from various Manitoba research and other institutions. This group could advise government on research needs and priorities. Membership of this group could be drawn from the universities, the Centre for Indigenous Environmental Resources, the Natural Resources Institute, Freshwater Institute, etc.

Other Recommendations

6.8.2
The Government of Manitoba be consistent in fulfilling its public policy commitments by not issuing licenses and permits for new development within the planning area that would violate standards, regulations or policies for water quality protection.

6.8.3
The Government of Manitoba continue to fulfill its obligation to protect species when reviewing development expansion, new developments or new license proposals within the planning area.

6.8.4
To provide an additional level of protection to the boreal environment when undertaking business developments, all new business ventures, with 25 or more employees, are encouraged to secure and maintain registration with an independent organization which is designed to address the potential environmental effects of the operation. At a minimum, such systems will identify potential environmental impacts, develop and implement controls to mitigate negative environmental impacts and require an independent assessment by a registered auditor. Existing business (with 25 or more employees) developments will be required to comply with this requirement within 5 years. As all existing systems are voluntary, the Government of Manitoba would have to establish the necessary policy framework to support the recommendation.

6.8.5
Impact benefit agreements with standardized criteria should be mandatory for development initiatives impacting land use within the broad area plan for the east side of Lake Winnipeg.

7. Conclusion

The Path Forward: Challenges & Opportunities

Despite having prepared a narrative analysis and numerous recommendations for consideration by east side of Lake Winnipeg communities and the Government of Manitoba, this status report, as its title suggests, is a long way from completion. Negotiations and discussions on many of the planning, protection and development issues identified in the original mandate for the Broad Area Plan have not been completed, nor has there been adequate opportunity for east side residents to prepare their input to this planning process. As information-sharing sessions with communities started but a scant 10 months ago, this is not surprising. It is to the credit of the Government of Manitoba and its commitment to this exercise that it will likely extend the period for community input, thereby ensuring a Broad Area Plan that both protects the environment and responds to the economic and social needs of the residents of the east side of Lake Winnipeg.

Also encouraging are the progressive steps taken to date by both the Government of Manitoba and 13 of the 16 First Nations communities on the east side of Lake Winnipeg in signing an important *Memorandum of Understanding.* The memorandum commits these First Nations governments and the Government of Manitoba to a process of negotiations and consultations which may lead to a *Protocols of Agreement* that will be the centrepiece of the Broad Area Plan itself. Credit is also due to the remaining three non-signatory First Nations who continue to be represented at the discussion table. As suggested in an earlier section, if the Broad Area Plan defines what issues and proposals are to be subjected to a planning regime (transportation, protected spaces, mining, etc.), the *Protocols of Agreement* will determine how those issues come into play on the east side of Lake Winnipeg. Consistent with the recommendations in COSDI, the Government of Manitoba is strongly encouraged to commit to a separate process of protocol negotiations with the Métis Nation Government of the east side of Lake Winnipeg.

With the justifiable excitement and focus on the promise held by the negotiations and consultations on *Protocols of Agreement*, it is essential to the overall success of the East Side Planning Initiative to remember that the Broad Area Planning and protocol processes are inextricably intertwined. One cannot proceed without the other.

Another major facet of the implementation of the Broad Area Plan is the creation of a governance mechanism that will ensure adhesion to the Broad Area Plan and *Protocols of Agreement*. The necessary authority will have to be vested in such a mechanism to guarantee local community input while adhering to the principles of sustainable development and protection of the environment, which are the foundations of the Broad Area Plan. It is not too soon to begin thinking of the possibility of legislative action to enshrine both the Broad Area Plan and the *Protocols of Agreement*, which will be essential to the plan's survival and implementation.

If undertaken with respect for the necessary complexity of the process, a measure of good faith and patience, and appropriate attention to detail, the Broad Area Plan for the east side of Lake Winnipeg will represent a watershed in the evolving relationship between government and Aboriginal communities in Canada. In terms of both the geographic area encompassed within the planning area and the complexity of the issues at stake, this is a most ambitious undertaking – one, that if successfully completed, will change the social and economic relationships between the Government of Manitoba and First Nations governments on the east side of Lake Winnipeg, and that will alter, for the foreseeable future, how land use planning is carried out in Manitoba.

There are numerous and daunting challenges to this enterprise: The constant challenge of ensuring that information and data is adequately shared with the population of the east side; the requirement to continuously engage the leadership and members of east side communities in building the Broad Area Plan; the need for vigilance and persistence in "following through" with all components of the planning exercise; ensuring that institutional inattentiveness does not permit the initiative to slowly slip below the horizon of possibility and imagination; the essential requirement for improved horizontal communications among provincial government departments, thereby reducing "stovepipe bureaucracy" and increasing the likelihood of a more coordinated and timely response to community needs; the challenges of using adaptive management techniques to allow the necessary flexibility to alter approaches and outcomes to the Broad Area Plan... endless as the list of challenges may appear, the potential rewards far surpass the fears which may be associated with this process.

First and foremost, should the protocol negotiations succeed and become the centrepiece of the Broad Area Plan, not only will it represent a landmark in government-to-Aboriginal government negotiations – it will also represent the first time in modern Canadian history that the process was initiated in its entirety by a non-Aboriginal government. The Government of Manitoba can enjoy a measure of pride in undertaking this risk-filled venture and committing itself to staying the course. The successful completion of both the protocols and the Broad Area Plan will contribute immeasurably to redefining relationships that have been marked historically by mistrust and bitterness. Should the protocols succeed in allowing Aboriginal communities to play the predominant role in charting their own futures with the access to the resources to do so, all Manitobans will benefit.

Another opportunity realized with the adoption of the Broad Area Plan for the east side of Lake Winnipeg is an unprecedented measure of protection for a significant and contiguous boreal environment. Faced with the seemingly relentless pressures of population expansion and development, the Broad Area Plan will redefine development in terms of its sustainability. Finally, the intrinsic value of the forest environment in "just being there" will be weighted equally with the values our society places upon turning the forest into commodities of necessity and convenience.

This status report is but a benchmark along the way, and the path ahead does finally offer a glimpse of what a fully functional Broad Area Plan may look like. The fragile coalition of interests which have contributed to the preparation of this report and support its objectives must now rely on the good faith and good will of the government which commissioned this initiative. Let us hope that this faith and this will has not been misplaced so that *"Promises to Keep"* will become promises kept.

8. Appendices

tab

8.1 Reference Maps .... 85 | 1

8.2 Public Participation Process .... 87 | 2

8.3 Community & Stakeholder Submissions .... 89 | 3

8.4 Community Reports .... 91 | 4

8.5 Community Facilitation Reports .... 93 | 5

8.6 Reports of Meetings with Elders .... 95 | 6

8.7 Memorandum of Understanding .... 97 | 7

8.8 ESPI Participants .... 99 | 8

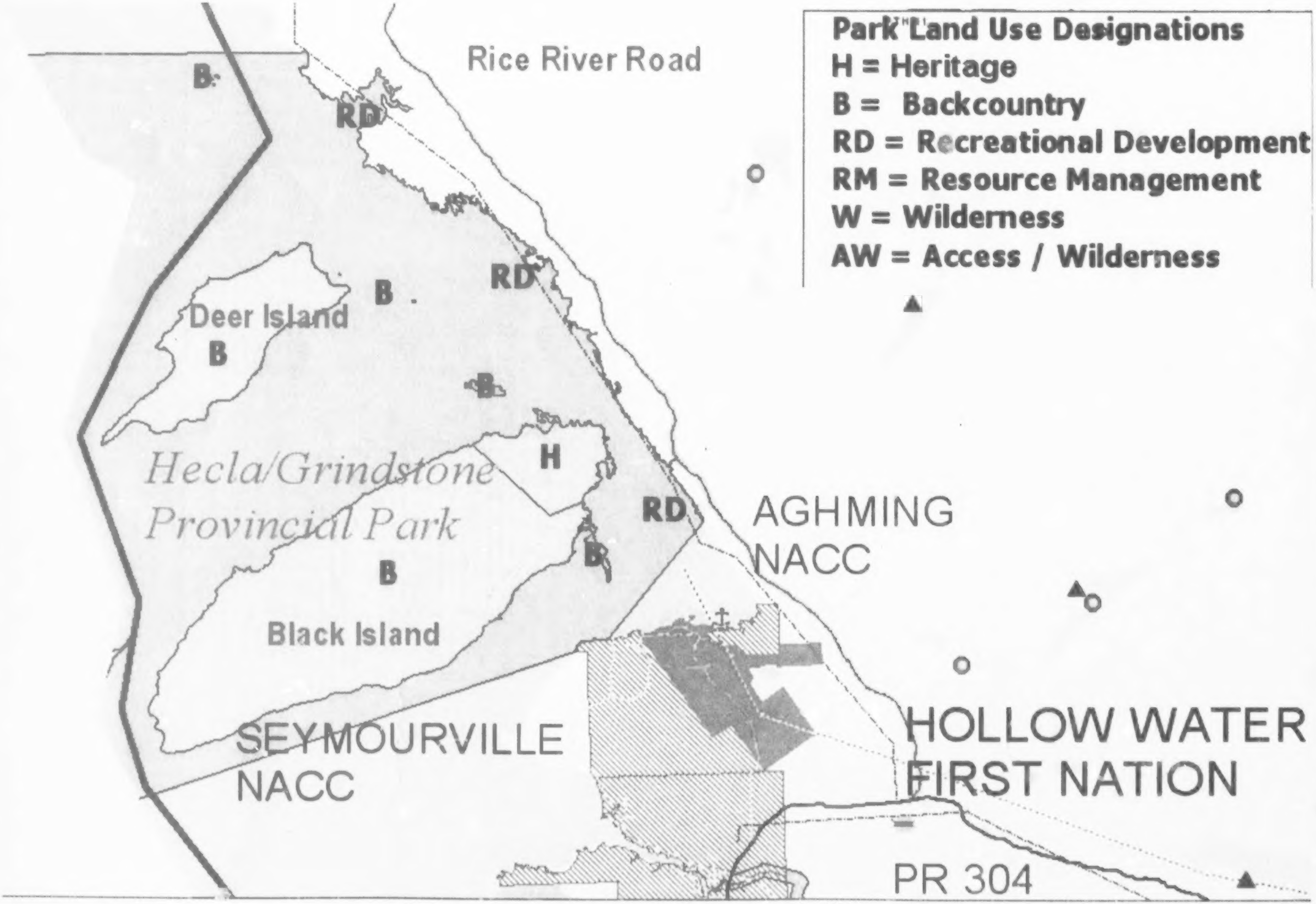
8.9 Reference Appendices & Locations of Availability .... 101 | 9

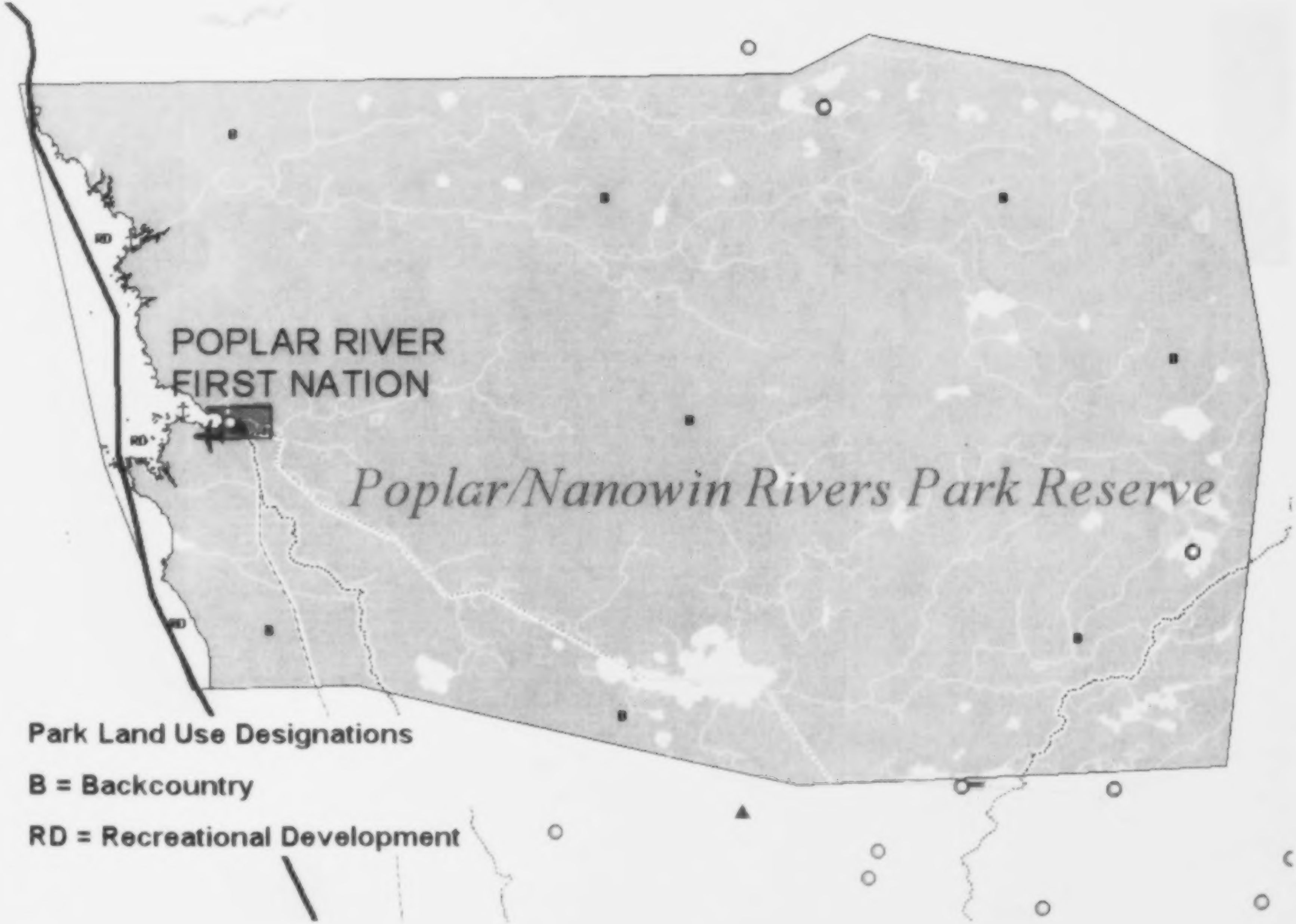
East Side
Planning Initiative

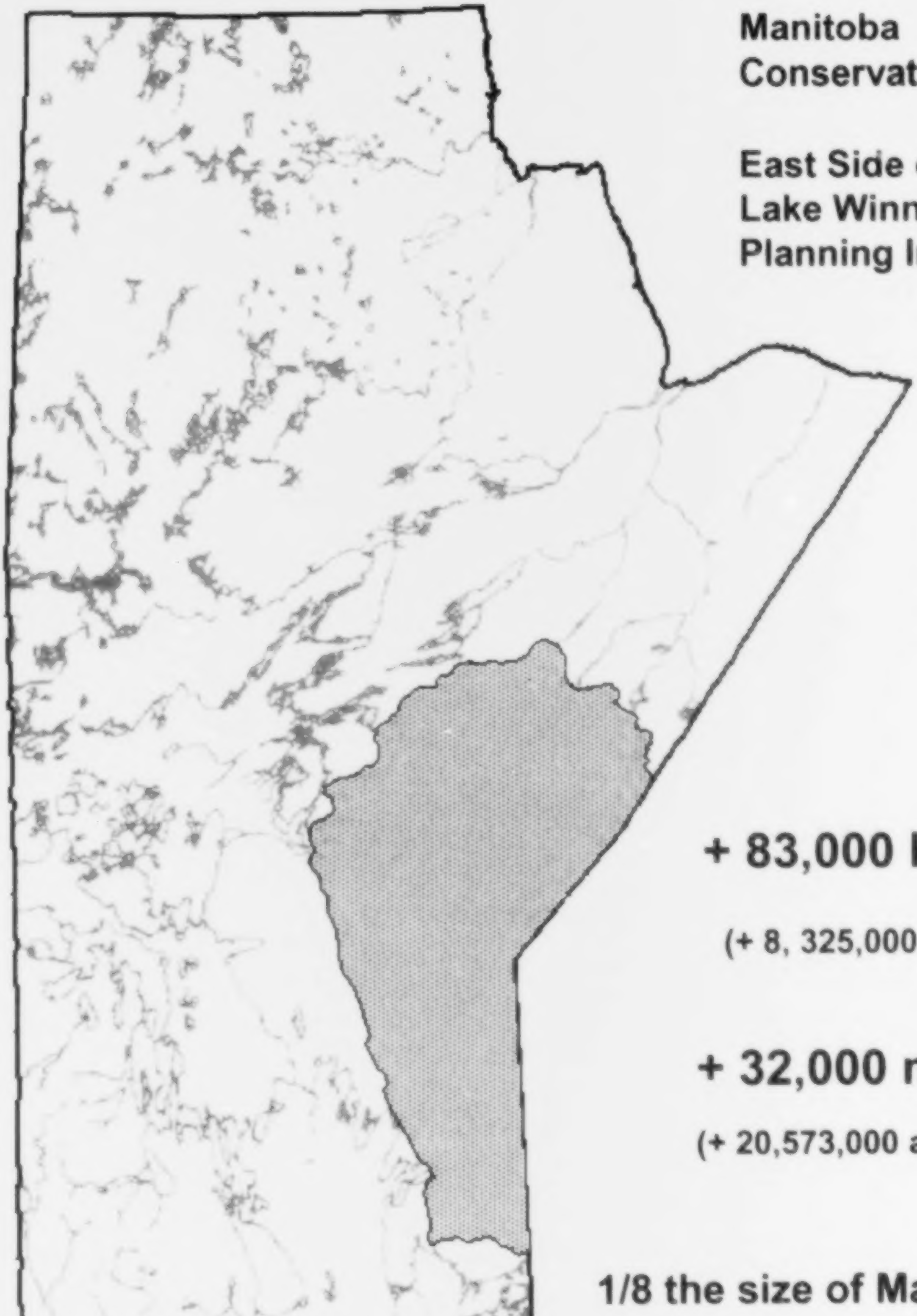
1

Appendix 8.1

Reference Maps


Park Land Use Designations
H = Heritage
B = Backcountry
RD = Recreational Development
RM = Resource Management
W = Wilderness
AW = Access / Wilderness
Rice River Road
B
RD
RD
B
Deer Island
B
B
H
Hecla/Grindstone
Provincial Park
RD
B
B
Black Island
AGHMING
NACC
SEYMOURVILLE
NACC
HOLLOW WATER
FIRST NATION
PR 304


POPLAR RIVER
FIRST NATION
Poplar/Nanowin Rivers Park Reserve
B
RD
Park Land Use Designations
B = Backcountry
RD = Recreational Development



Manitoba Conservation

East Side of Lake Winnipeg Planning Initiative

+ 83,000 km²

(+ 8, 325,000 ha)

+ 32,000 miles²

(+ 20,573,000 acres)

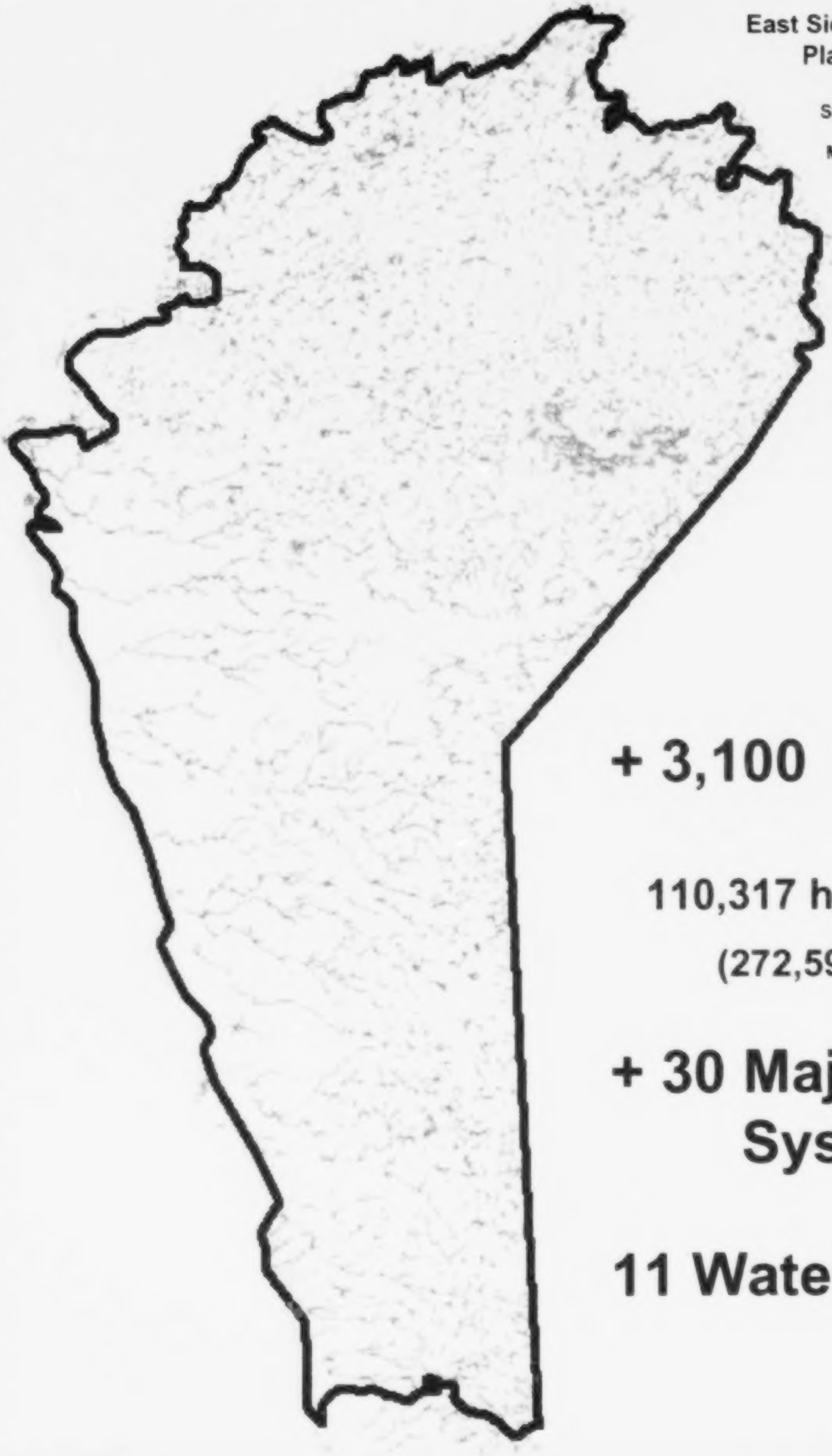
1/8 the size of Manitoba

Sustainable Resource
Management Branch

Manitoba Conservation

East Side of Lake Winnipeg
Planning Initiative

Sustainable Resource
Management Branch



+ 3,100 Lakes

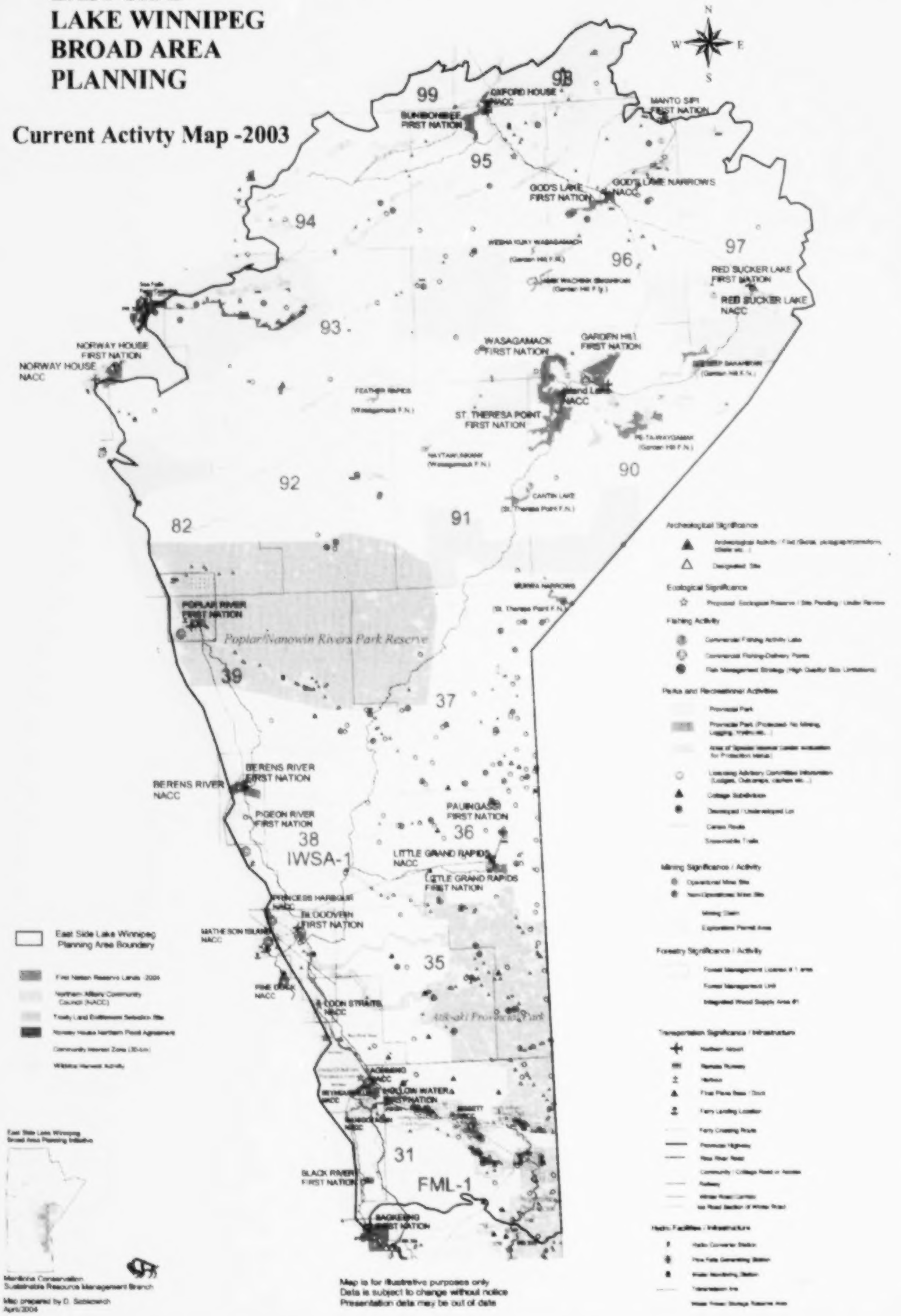
110,317 ha (approx.)
(272,598 acres)

+ 30 Major River Systems

11 Watersheds

EAST SIDE LAKE WINNIPEG BROAD AREA PLANNING

Current Activty Map -2003


N
W
E
S
99
98
OXFORD HOUSE NACC
BUNIBONIBEE FIRST NATION
MANTO SIPI FIRST NATION
95
GOD'S LAKE FIRST NATION
GOD'S LAKE NARROWS NACC
94
WESHA KIJAY WASAGAMACK (Garden Hill F.N.)
96
97
RED SUCKER LAKE FIRST NATION
RED SUCKER LAKE NACC
93
NORWAY HOUSE FIRST NATION
NORWAY HOUSE NACC
WASAGAMACK FIRST NATION
GARDEN HILL FIRST NATION
FEATHER RAPIDS (Wasagamack F.N.)
Island Lake NACC
ST. THERESA POINT FIRST NATION
(Garden Hill F.N.)
NAYTAWASKAW (Wasagamack F.N.)
92
90
CANTIN LAKE (St. Theresa Point F.N.)
82
91
POPLAR RIVER FIRST NATION
Poplar/Nanowin Rivers Park Reserve
(St. Theresa Point F.N.)
39
37
BERENS RIVER FIRST NATION
BERENS RIVER NACC
PIGEON RIVER FIRST NATION
PAUINGASSI FIRST NATION
38
36
IWSA-1
LITTLE GRAND RAPIDS NACC
LITTLE GRAND RAPIDS FIRST NATION
PRINCESS HARBOUR NACC
BLOODVEIN FIRST NATION
MATHESON ISLAND NACC
35
PINE DOCK NACC
COON STRAITS NACC
Atikaki Provincial Park
AGHAMING NACC
HOLLOW WATER FIRST NATION
SEYMOURVILLE NACC
BISSETT NACC
MANIGOTAGAN NACC
31
BLACK RIVER FIRST NATION
FML-1
SAGKEENG FIRST NATION
East Side Lake Winnipeg Planning Area Boundary
First Nation Reserve Lands - 2004
Northern Affairs Community Council (NACC)
Treaty Land Entitlement Selection Site
Norway House Northern Flood Agreement
Community Interest Zone (30-km)
Wildlife Harvest Activity
East Side Lake Winnipeg Broad Area Planning Initiative
Archeological Significance
Archeological Activity / Find (Burial, pictograph/petroform, Village etc...)
Designated Site
Ecological Significance
Proposed Ecological Reserve / Site Pending / Under Review
Fishing Activity
Commercial Fishing Activity Lake
Commercial Fishing-Delivery Points
Fish Management Strategy (High Quality/ Size Limitations)
Parks and Recreational Activities
Provincial Park
Provincial Park (Protected: No Mining, Logging, Hydro etc...)
Area of Special Interest (under evaluation for Protection status)
Licensing Advisory Committee Information (Lodges, Outcamps, caches etc...)
Cottage Subdivision
Developed / Undeveloped Lot
Canoe Route
Snowmobile Trails
Mining Significance / Activity
Operational Mine Site
Non-Operational Mine Site
Mining Claim
Exploration Permit Area
Forestry Significance / Activity
Forest Management Licence # 1 area
Forest Management Unit
Integrated Wood Supply Area #1
Transportation Significance / Infrastructure
Northern Airport
Remote Runway
Harbour
Float Plane Base / Dock
Ferry Landing Location
Ferry Crossing Route
Provincial Highway
Rice River Road
Community / Cottage Road or Access
Railway
Winter Road Corridor
Ice Road Section of Winter Road
Hydro Facilities / Infrastructure
Hydro Converter Station
Pine Falls Generating Station
Water Monitoring Station
Transmission line
Water Power Storage Reserve Area

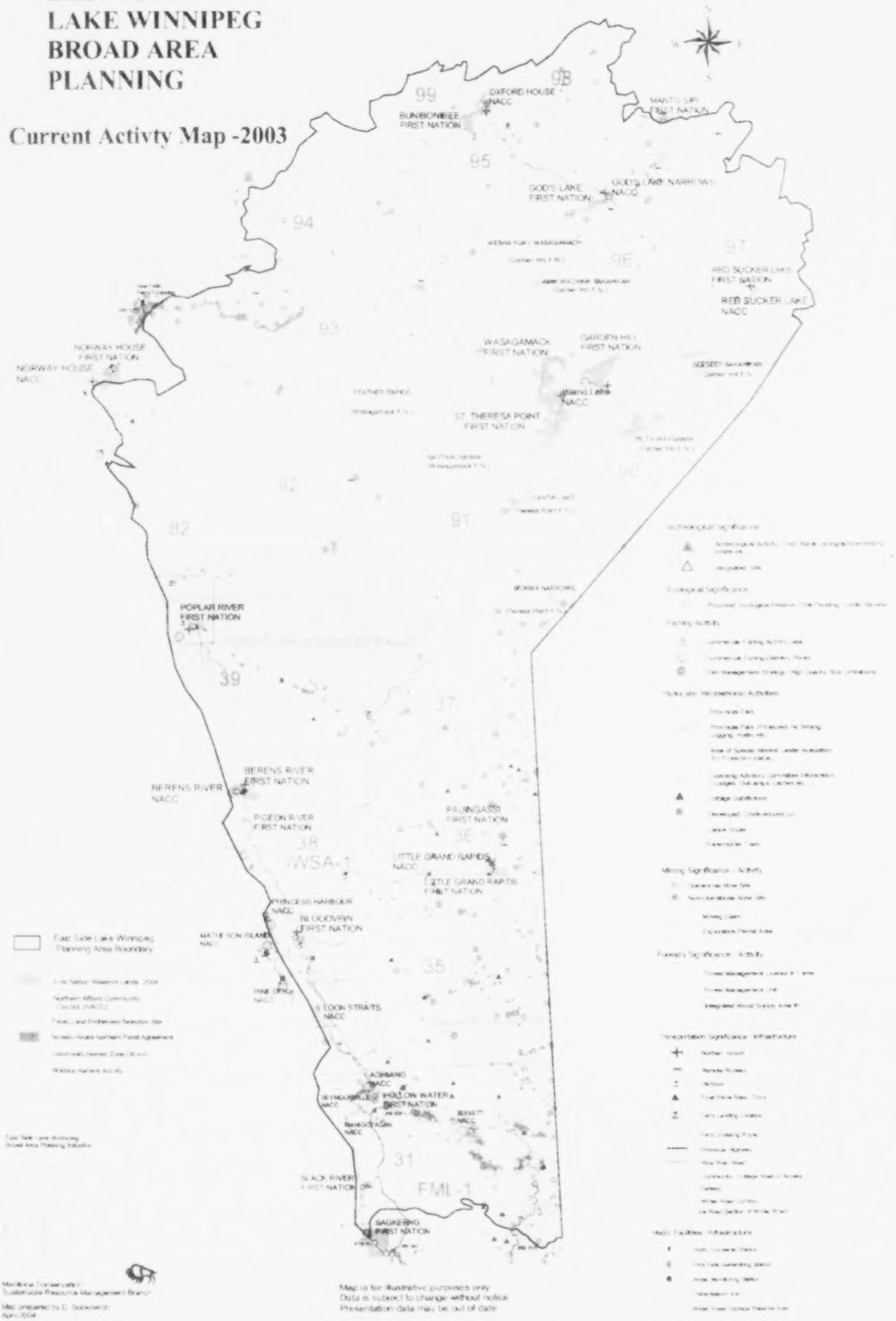
Manitoba Conservation
Sustainable Resource Management Branch

Map prepared by D. Sobkowich
April 2004

Map is for illustrative purposes only
Data is subject to change without notice
Presentation data may be out of date

EAST SIDE
LAKE WINNIPEG
BROAD AREA
PLANNING

Current Activty Map -2003

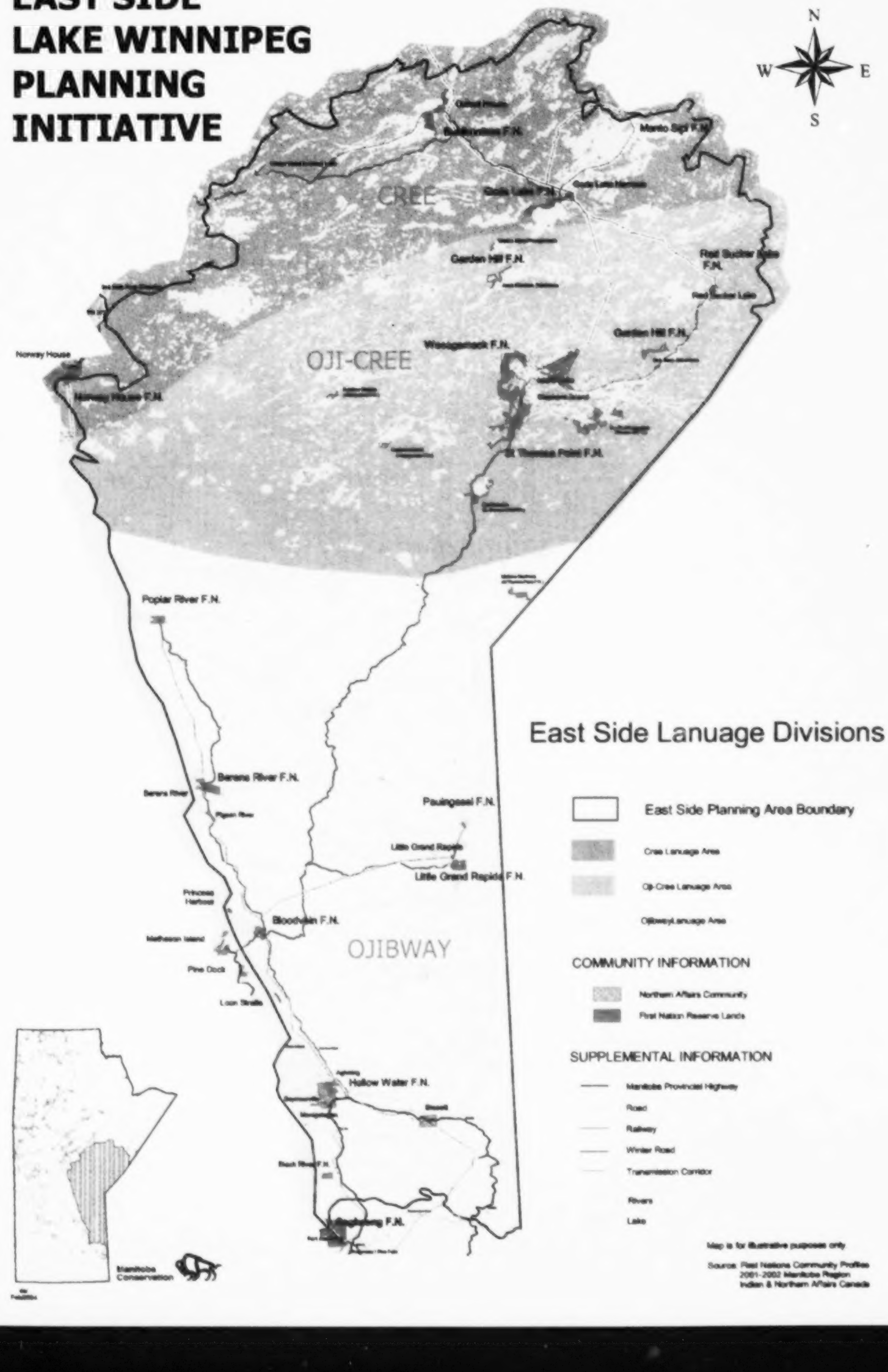

N
W
E
S
99
98
OXFORD HOUSE
NACC
BUNIBONIBEE
FIRST NATION
MANTO SIPI
FIRST NATION
95
GOD'S LAKE
FIRST NATION
GOD'S LAKE NARROWS
NACC
94
96
97
RED SUCKER LAKE
FIRST NATION
RED SUCKER LAKE
NACC
93
NORWAY HOUSE
FIRST NATION
NORWAY HOUSE
NACC
WASAGAMACK
FIRST NATION
GARDEN HILL
FIRST NATION
Island Lake
NACC
ST. THERESA POINT
FIRST NATION
92
91
82
POPLAR RIVER
FIRST NATION
39
37
BERENS RIVER
FIRST NATION
BERENS RIVER
NACC
PIGEON RIVER
FIRST NATION
38
IWSA-1
PAUINGASSI
FIRST NATION
36
LITTLE GRAND RAPIDS
NACC
LITTLE GRAND RAPIDS
FIRST NATION
PRINCESS HARBOUR
NACC
BLOODVEIN
FIRST NATION
MATHESON ISLAND
NACC
35
PINE DOCK
NACC
LOON STRAITS
NACC
AGHAMING
NACC
SEYMOURVILLE
NACC
HOLLOW WATER
FIRST NATION
BISSETT
NACC
MANIGOTAGAN
NACC
31
BLACK RIVER
FIRST NATION
FMI-1
SAGKEENG
FIRST NATION
East Side Lake Winnipeg
Planning Area Boundary
First Nation Reserve Lands 2004
Northern Affairs Community
Council (NACC)
Treaty Land Entitlement Selection Site
Norway House Northern Flood Agreement
Community Interest Zone (30 km)
Wildrice Harvest Activity
East Side Lake Winnipeg
Broad Area Planning Initiative
Archaeological Significance
Designated Site
Ecological Significance
Fishing Activity
Commercial Fishing Delivery Points
Parks and Recreational Activities
Provincial Park
Cottage Subdivision
Canoe Route
Snowmobile Trails
Mining Significance / Activity
Operational Mine Site
Non-Operational Mine Site
Mining Claim
Exploration Permit Area
Forestry Significance / Activity
Forest Management License # 1 Area
Forest Management Unit
Integrated Wood Supply Area #1
Transportation Significance / Infrastructure
Northern Airport
Remote Runway
Harbour
Provincial Highway
Railway
Hydro Facilities / Infrastructure
Water Monitoring Station
Transmission line

Manitoba Conservation
Sustainable Resource Management Branch

Map prepared by D. Sokolowich
April 2004

Map is for illustrative purposes only
Data is subject to change without notice
Presentation data may be out of date

EAST SIDE LAKE WINNIPEG PLANNING INITIATIVE

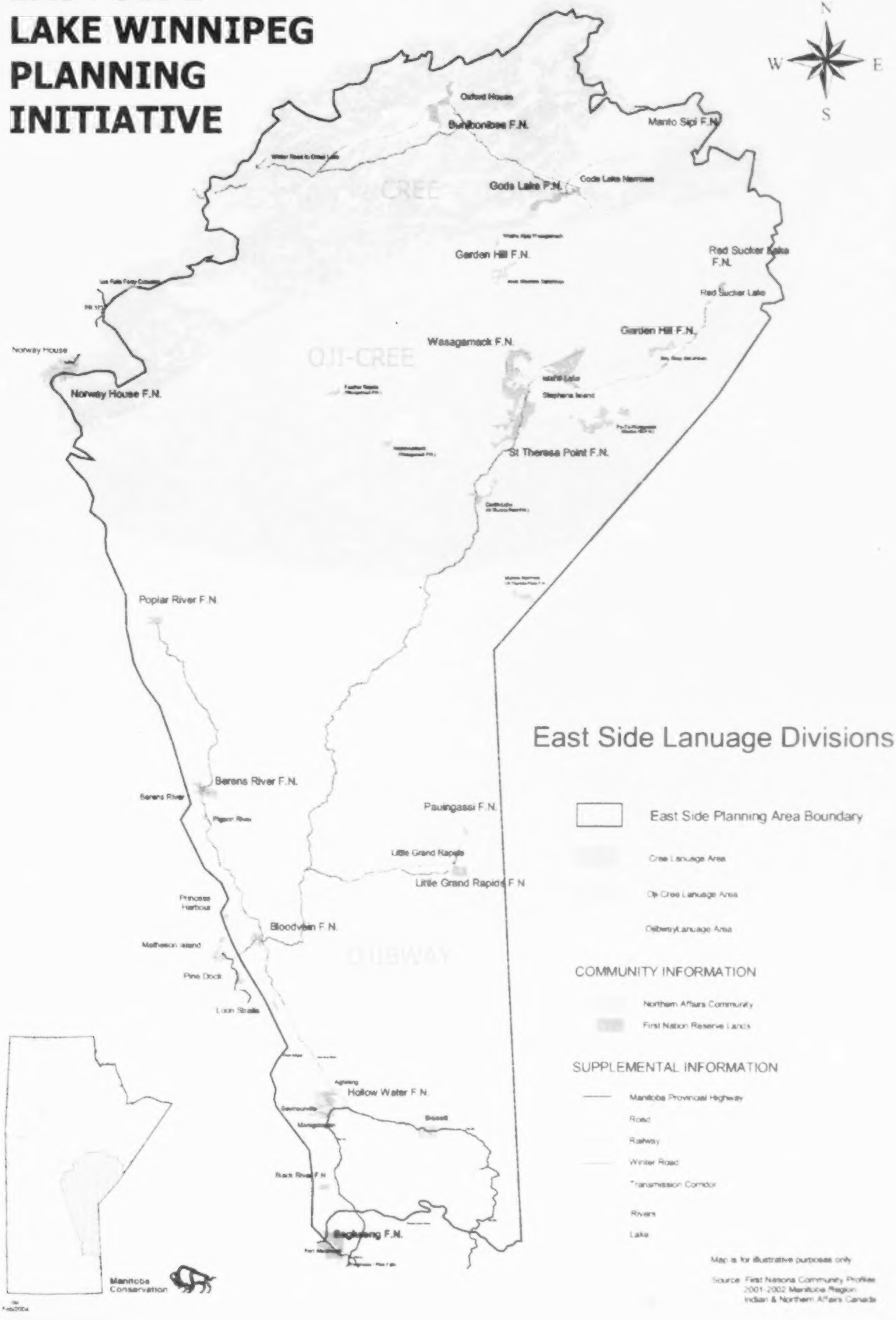

N
W
E
S
Oxford House
Bunibonibee F.N.
Manto Sipi F.N.
CREE
God's Lake F.N.
God's Lake Narrows
Garden Hill F.N.
Red Sucker Lake F.N.
Red Sucker Lake
Norway House
Norway House F.N.
OJI-CREE
Wasagamack F.N.
Garden Hill F.N.
St. Theresa Point F.N.
Poplar River F.N.
Berens River F.N.
Berens River
Pigeon River
Pauingassi F.N.
Little Grand Rapids
Little Grand Rapids F.N.
Princess Harbour
Bloodvein F.N.
Matheson Island
Pine Dock
Loon Straits
OJIBWAY
Aghaming
Hollow Water F.N.
Bissett
Black River F.N.
Sagkeeng F.N.
Manitoba Conservation
East Side Planning Area Boundary
Cree Lanuage Area
Oji-Cree Lanuage Area
OjibwayLanuage Area
COMMUNITY INFORMATION
Northern Affairs Community
First Nation Reserve Lands
SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION
Manitoba Provincial Highway
Road
Railway
Winter Road
Transmission Corridor
Rivers
Lake

East Side Lanuage Divisions

Map is for illustrative purposes only

Source: First Nations Community Profiles
2001-2002 Manitoba Region
Indian & Northern Affairs Canada

EAST SIDE LAKE WINNIPEG PLANNING INITIATIVE


N
W
E
S
Oxford House
Bunibonibee F.N.
Manto Sipi F.N.
CREE
Gods Lake F.N.
Gods Lake Narrows
Garden Hill F.N.
Red Sucker Lake F.N.
Red Sucker Lake
Garden Hill F.N.
Wasagamack F.N.
OJI-CREE
Norway House
Norway House F.N.
Island Lake
Stephens Island
St Theresa Point F.N.
Poplar River F.N.
Berens River F.N.
Berens River
Pigeon River
Pauingassi F.N.
Little Grand Rapids
Little Grand Rapids F.N.
Princess Harbour
Bloodvein F.N.
Matheson Island
OJIBWAY
Pine Dock
Loon Straits
Hollow Water F.N.
Seymourville
Manigotagan
Bissett
Black River F.N.
Sagkeeng F.N.
Fort Alexander
Manitoba Conservation

East Side Lanuage Divisions

East Side Planning Area Boundary

Cree Lanuage Area

Oji-Cree Lanuage Area

OjibwayLanuage Area

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

Northern Affairs Community

First Nation Reserve Lands

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Manitoba Provincial Highway

Road

Railway

Winter Road

Transmission Corridor

Rivers

Lake

Map is for illustrative purposes only

Source: First Nations Community Profiles
2001-2002 Manitoba Region
Indian & Northern Affairs Canada

Feb 2004

**First Nation Communities

Bunibonibee Cree Nation
pop. on reserve: 1,869
pop. off reserve: 292
area: 12,049 acres (4,876 ha)
School: Oxford House School - K4-8 (388 students)
1972 Memorial High School - Grade 7-S4 (184 students)
Off Reserve Students: 1
Health Services: Oxford House Nursing Station
Transportation: Winter Road via Cross Lake
2,507' gravel airstrip
Dock facilities
Economic Base: Trapping, fishing,some commercial businesses, fuel wood

Manto Sipi Cree Nation
pop. on reserve: 517
pop. off reserve: 71
area: 381 acres (154 ha)
School: Amos Okemow Memorial School - K4-S2 (193 students)
Off Reserve Students: 5
Health Services: God's River Nursing Station
Transportation: Winter Road via Cross Lake
3,460' gravel airstrip
Dock facilities
Economic Base: Commercial fishing, hunting and trapping

God's Lake First Nation
pop. on reserve: 1,240
pop. off reserve: 838
area: 9,133 acres (3,696 ha)
School: God's Lake First Nation School - K4-8 (321 students)
Off Reserve Students: 133
Health Services: God's Lake Narrows Nursing Station
Transportation: Winter Road via Cross Lake
3.8km of community road
3,460' gravel airstrip
Dock facilities
Water Taxi Service
Snowmobile Taxis Service
Economic Base: Fishing, hunting, trapping, tourist guides, and commercial business

Red Sucker Lake First Nation
pop. on reserve: 707
pop. off reserve: 45
area: 524acres (253 ha)
School: Red Sucker Lake School - K4-S4 (209 students)
Off Reserve Students: 33
Health Services: Red Sucker Lake Nursing Station
Transportation: Winter Road via Garden Hill
3,500' gravel airstrip
Economic Base: Commercial fishing, trapping, and some commercial business

Garden Hill First Nation
pop. on reserve: 2880
pop. off reserve: 287
area: 5 Reserve areas totaling 40,413 acres (16,354 ha)
School: Garden Hill Elementary School - K4-8 (307 students)
Garden Hill First Nation High School - S1-S4 (n/a)
Off Reserve Students: n/a
Total number of students: 985
Health Services: Garden Hill Nursing Station
Transportation: Winter Road via Bloodvein
21.7km of community roads
3,900' gravel airstrip at Stevenson Island NACC
Dock facilities
Economic Base: Commercial Fishing, trapping, and commercial business

Wasagamack First Nation
pop. on reserve: 1,241
pop. off reserve: 107
area: 3 Reserve areas totaling 20,581 acres (8,330 ha)
School: George Knott School - K4-S4 (459 students)
Off Reserve Students: 6
Health Services: Wasagamack Nursing Station
Transportation: Winter Road via St. Theresa Point
20.3km of community roads
4,000' gravel airstrip at Stevenson Island NACC
Dock facilities
Economic Base: Commercial Fishing, trapping, and commercial business

St. Theresa Point First Nation
pop. on reserve: 2,836
pop. off reserve: 176
area: 3 Reserve areas totaling 14,064 acres (5,687 ha)
School: St. Theresa Point School - K4-S4 (983 students)
Off Reserve Students: 81
Health Services: St. Theresa Point Nursing Station
Transportation: Winter Road via Bloodvein
11.3km of community roads
3,500' gravel airstrip
Dock facilities
Water Taxi Service
Economic Base: Commercial business

Norway House Cree Nation
pop. on reserve: 4,086
pop. off reserve: 1,484
area: 3 Reserve areas totaling 19,842 acres (7,948ha)
School: Jack River School - K4-8 (542 students)
Rossville Elementary School - K4-8 (595)
Norway House High School -S1-S4 (380)
Health Services: Norway House Hospital
Pinaow Wachi Inc. Personal Care Home
Transportation: All weather Road (PR 373)
paved community roads
4.0km gravel community road
Ferry Service (Sea Falls Crossing)
4,000' gravel airstrip
Dock facilities
Taxi Service
Economic Base: Fishing, trapping, hunting, lodging and Commercial business

Poplar River First Nation
pop. on reserve: 919
pop. off reserve: 223
area: 3,800 acres (1,538ha)
School: Poplar River School- K4-S1 (218 students)
Off Reserve students: 109
Health Services: Poplar River Nursing Station
Transportation: Winter Road via Berens River
21km gravel community road
2,500' gravel airstrip
Dock facilities
Barge facilities (Lake Winnipeg)
Economic Base: Fishing, trapping, some commercial business

Pauingassi First Nation
pop. on reserve: 484
pop. off reserve: 30
area: 644 acres (261ha)
School: Pauingassi School - K4-S1 (142 students)
Off Reserve students: 431
Health Services: Pauingassi Nursing Station
Transportation: Winter Road via Bloodvein
4.0 km gravel community road
3,000' gravel airstrip at Little Grand Rapids (24km south)
Heli-service
Economic Base: Fishing, trapping, seasonal rice harvesting and some commercial business

Little Grand Rapids First Nation
pop. on reserve: 911
pop. off reserve: 344
area: 4,988 acres (2,066ha)
School: Little Grand Rapids School - K4-S4 (253 students)
Off Reserve students: 320
Health Services: Little Grand Rapids Nursing Station
Transportation: Winter Road via Bloodvein
9.0 km gravel community road
3,000' gravel airstrip
Heli-service
Economic Base: Fishing, trapping, seasonal rice harvesting and some commercial business

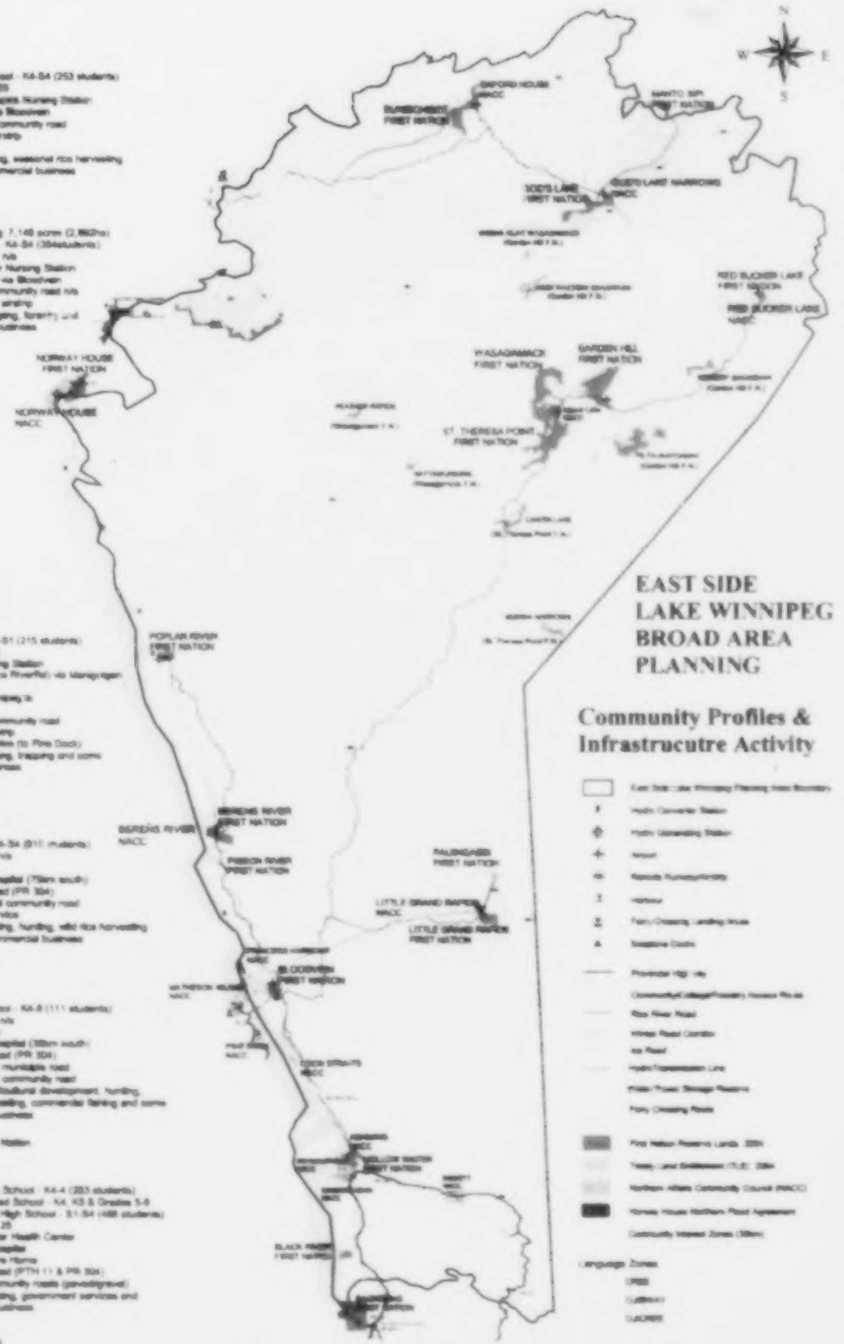
Berens River First Nation
pop. on reserve: 1,072
pop. off reserve: 1,169
area: 2 Reserve areas totaling 7,140 acres (2,892ha)
School: Berens River School - K4-S4 (394students)
Off Reserve students: n/a
Health Services: Berens River Nursing Station
Transportation: Winter Road via Bloodvein
km gravel community road n/a
2,900' gravel airstrip
Economic Base: Fishing, trapping, forestry and commercial business

Bloodvein First Nation
pop. on reserve: 671
pop. off reserve: 531
area: 4,216 acres (1,628ha)
School: Miskooseepi School - K4-S1 (215 students)
Off Reserve students: n/a
Health Services: Bloodvein Nursing Station
Transportation: Winter Road (Rice RiverRd) via Manigotagan
or ice road
across Lake Winnipeg to
Pine Dock
8.0 km gravel community road
1,000' gravel airstrip
Ferry/Barge Service (to Pine Dock)
Economic Base: Commercial fishing, trapping and some commercial business

Hollow Water First Nation
pop. on reserve: 672
pop. off reserve: 601
area: 4,010 acres (1,623ha)
School: Wanipigow School - K4-S4 (311 students)
Off Reserve students: n/a
Health Services: Health Office
Pine Falls Hospital (75km south)
Transportation: All weather road (PR 304)
12.0 km gravel community road
Daily Bus Service
Economic Base: Fishing, trapping, hunting, wild rice harvesting and some commercial business

Black River (Little) First Nation
pop. on reserve: 472
pop. off reserve: 307
area: 2,000 acres (809ha)
School: Little Black River School - K4-8 (111 students)
Off Reserve students: n/a
Health Services: Health Office
Pine Falls Hospital (30km south)
Transportation: All weather road (PR 304)
4.0 km paved municipal road
6.0 km gravel community road
Economic Base: Trapping, agricultural development, hunting, wild rice harvesting, commercial fishing and some commercial business

Sagkeeng (Fort Alexander) First Nation
pop. on reserve: 3,017
pop. off reserve: 2,908
area: 21,674 acres (8,771ha)
School: Anicinabe Community School - K4-4 (283 students)
Sagkeeng Consolidated School - K4, K5 & Grades 5-8
Sagkeeng Anicinabe High School - S1-S4 (488 students)
Off Reserve students: 25
Health Services: Fort Alexander Health Center
Pine Falls Hospital
Personal Care Home
Transportation: All weather road (PTH 11 & PR 304)
30.8 km community roads (paved/gravel)
Economic Base: Fishing, trapping, government services and commercial business



EAST SIDE LAKE WINNIPEG BROAD AREA PLANNING

Community Profiles & Infrastrucutre Activity

East Side Lake Winnipeg Planning Area Boundary
Hydro Converter Station
Hydro Generating Station
Airport
Remote Runway/Airstrip
Harbour
Ferry Crossing Landing Area
Seaplane Docks
Provincial Highway
Community/Cottage/Forestry Access Roads
Rice River Road
Winter Road Corridor
Ice Road
Hydro Transmission Line
Water Power Storage Reserve
Ferry Crossing Route
First Nation Reserve Lands 2004
Treaty Land Entitlement (TLE) 2004
Northern Affairs Community Council (NACC)
Norway House Northern Flood Agreement
Community Interest Zones (30km)
Language Zones
CREE
OJIBWAY
OJICREE

*NACC Communities

Oxford House NACC
pop.: n/a
area: approx 32.8 acres (13.3ha)
School: Oxford House School - K4-6
Health Services: Oxford House Nursing Station
Transportation: Winter road via Cross Lake
Economic Base: Trapping, guiding, fuelwood, and some commercial business

Red Sucker Lake NACC
pop.: 33 (2 Island communities)
School: Distance School
Health Services: Red Sucker Lake Nursing Station
Transportation: Winter road via Bloodvein
3,000' gravel airstrip
Economic Base: Trapping,fishing and some commercial business

God's Lake Narrows NACC
pop.: 113
School: [illegible] School
Health Services: God's Lake Narrows Nursing Station
Transportation: Winter road via Cross Lake
Economic Base: Trapping, guiding and some commercial business

Island Lake NACC
pop.: 59 (7 Island communities)
School: Stevenson Island School
Health Services: Garden Hill First Nation Nursing Station
Transportation: Winter road via Bloodvein
4,000' gravel airstrip (Stevenson island)
Economic Base: Trapping, hunting, sport fishing, guiding, commercial business

Norway House NACC
pop.: 495
School: Jack River School, Norway House School, Rossville School
Health Services: Norway House Hospital
Public/Medical Health Centre
Transportation: All weather road (PR 373)
Ferry Crossing (Sea Falls)
3,800' gravel airstrip
Economic Base: Commercial fishing, trapping, local services (regional center), transportation centre, wildrice harvest, and commercial business

Berens River NACC
pop.: 42
School: Berens River Consolidated School
Health Services: Berens River First Nation Nursing Station
Transportation: Winter road via Bloodvein
2,900' gravel airstrip
Economic Base: Fishing, trapping, forestry, wildrice harvest, quarry operation, marina

Little Grand Rapids NACC
pop.: 10
School: Little Grand Rapids School
Health Services: Little Grand Rapids First Nation Nursing Station
Transportation: Winter road via Bloodvein
2,800' gravel airstrip
Economic Base: some commercial fishing, trapping, wildrice harvesting, sport fishing

Princess Harbour NACC
pop.: 10
School: none
Health Services: Gimli Hospital
Transportation: ice road via Pine Dock
ferry service via Pine Dock
Economic Base: Ferry operation/barge service, commercial fishing, some trapping

Loon Straits NACC
pop.: 10
School: none
Health Services: Gimli Hospital
Transportation: Winter road (Rice River Road) via Manigotagan
Local (non-licensed) grass airstrip
Economic Base: Commercial fishing, trapping

Matheson Island NACC
pop.: 88
School: Matheson Island School
Health Services: Gimli or Arborg Hospital
Transportation: All weather road (PR 234)
3,000' gravel airstrip
Ferry Service (2)
Economic Base: Commercial fishing, local services, some commercial business, trapping, marina operations, some sawlogging

Pine Dock NACC
pop.: 100
School: Pine Dock School
Health Services: Gimli or Arborg Hospital
Transportation: All weather road (PR 234)
Economic Base: Commercial fishing, trapping, local services, some commercial business, some pulpwood harvesting

Bissett NACC
pop.: 140
School: San Antonio School
Health Services: Pine Falls Hospital
Transportation: All weather Road (PR 304 & PR 314)
Economic Base: Forestry, trapping, mining, wildrice harvesting, local services, commercial business, tourism/recreation

Aghaming NACC
pop.: 10
School: Wanipigow School
Health Services: Pine Falls Hospital
Transportation: All weather road (PR 304)
Economic Base: Fishing, hunting, trapping, and pulpwood logging

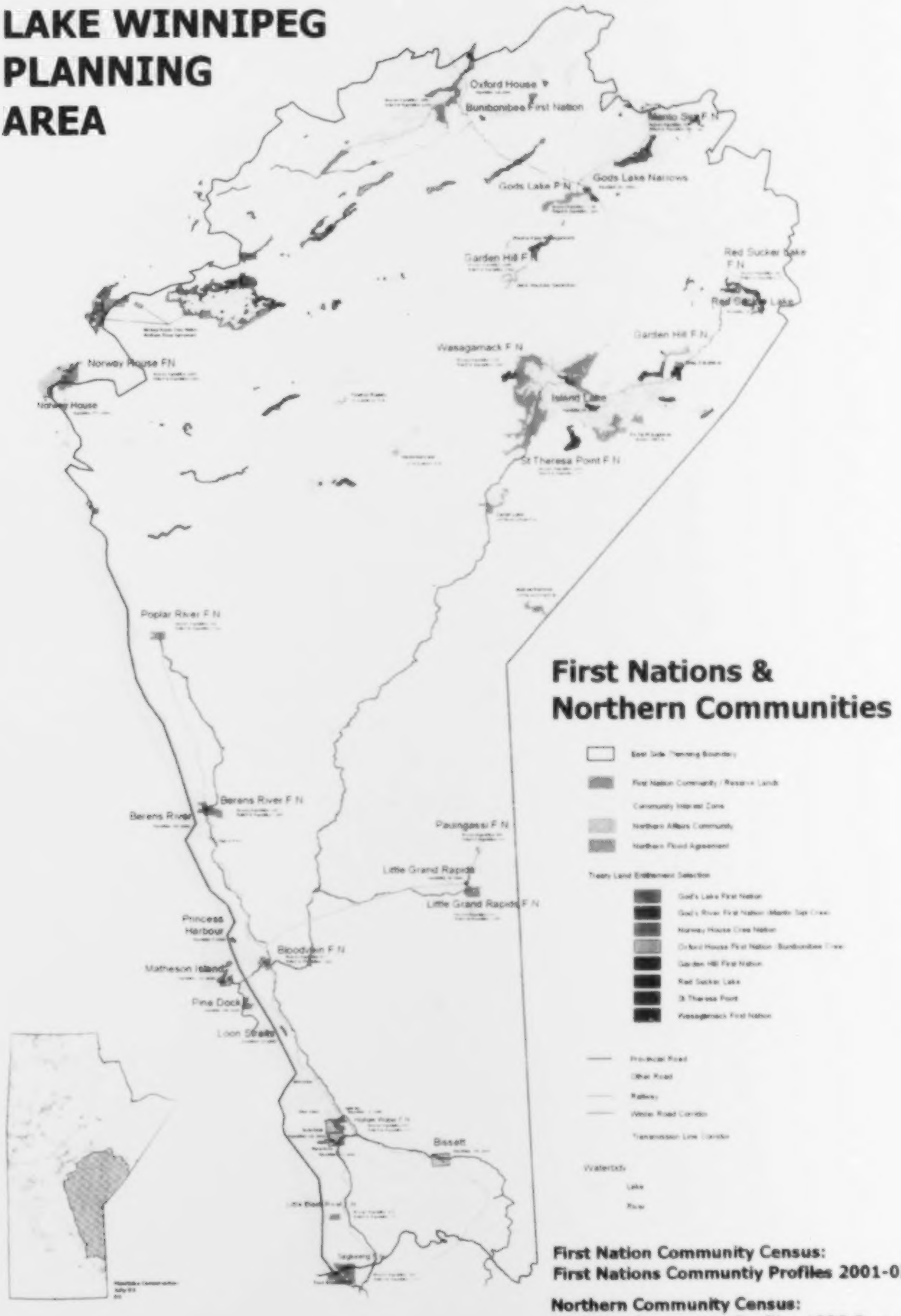
Seymourville NACC
pop.: 195
School: Wanipigow School
Health Services: Pine Falls Hospital
Transportation: All weather road (PR 304)
Economic Base: Fishing, trapping, logging, wild rice harvesting, limited tourism, undeveloped mining potential

Manigotagan NACC
pop.: 190
School: Wanipigow School
Health Services: Pine Falls Hospital
Transportation: All weather road (PR 304)
Economic Base: Forestry, commercial fishing, trapping, hunting, wildrice harvesting, tourism, local services and some commercial business

---

**First Nation Community Profiles 2001-2002
*Manitoba Aboriginal & Northern Affairs Community Profiles 2001

EAST SIDE LAKE WINNIPEG PLANNING AREA


Oxford House
Bunibonibee First Nation
Manto Sipi F.N.
Gods Lake F.N.
Gods Lake Narrows
Garden Hill F.N.
Red Sucker Lake F.N.
Red Sucker Lake
Garden Hill F.N.
Wasagamack F.N.
Island Lake
St Theresa Point F.N.
Norway House F.N.
Norway House
Poplar River F.N.
Berens River F.N.
Berens River
Pauingassi F.N.
Little Grand Rapids
Little Grand Rapids F.N.
Princess Harbour
Bloodvein F.N.
Matheson Island
Pine Dock
Loon Straits
Hollow Water F.N.
Bissett
Little Black River F.N.
Seymourville
East Side Planning Boundary
First Nation Community / Reserve Lands
Community Interest Zone
Northern Affairs Community
Northern Flood Agreement
Treaty Land Entitlement Selection
God's Lake First Nation
God's River First Nation (Manto Sipi Cree)
Norway House Cree Nation
Oxford House First Nation (Bunibonibee Cree)
Garden Hill First Nation
Red Sucker Lake
St Theresa Point
Wasagamack First Nation
Provincial Road
Other Road
Railway
Winter Road Corridor
Transmission Line Corridor
Waterbody
Lake
River

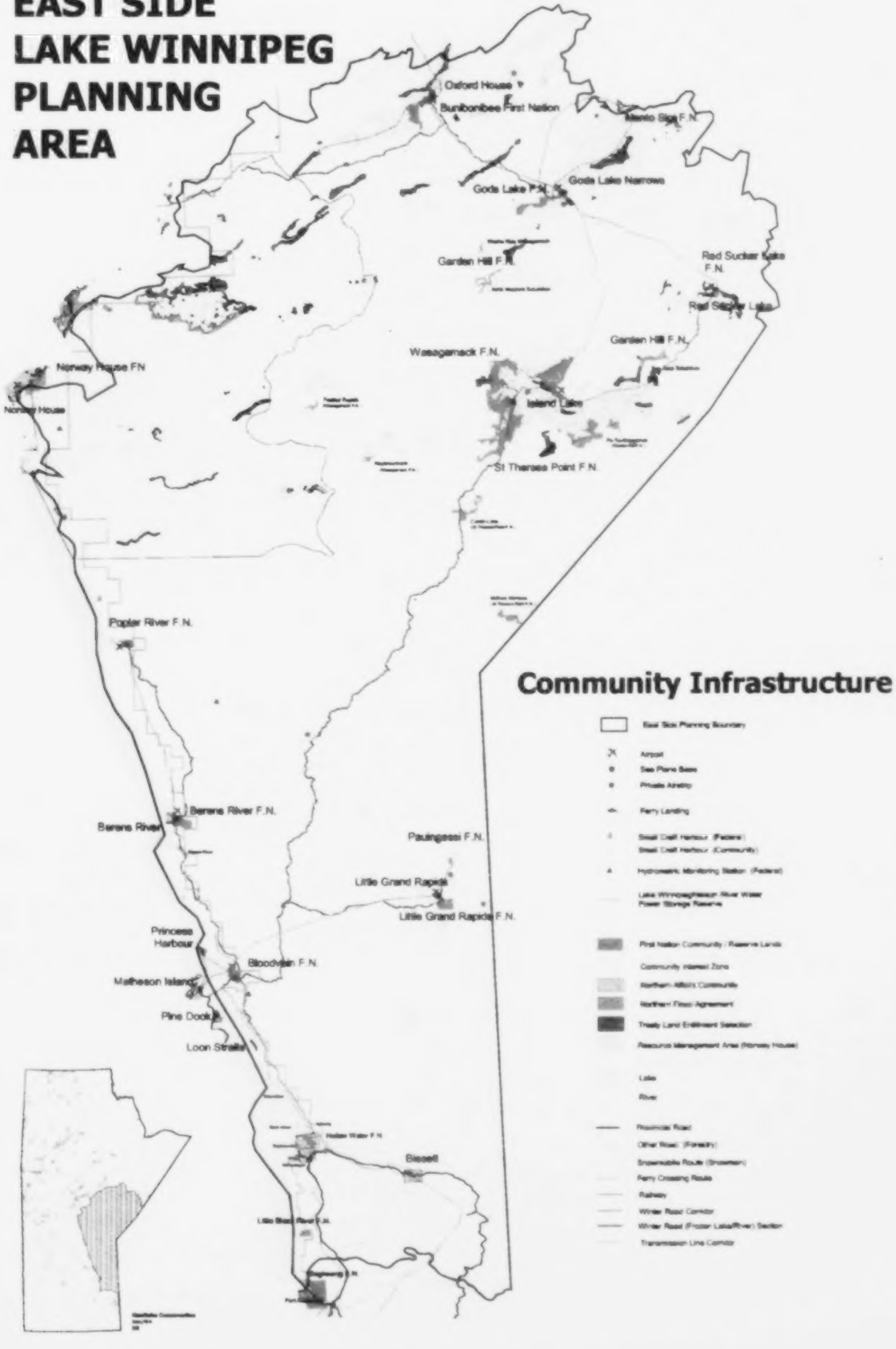
First Nations & Northern Communities

First Nation Community Census:
First Nations Communtiy Profiles 2001-02)

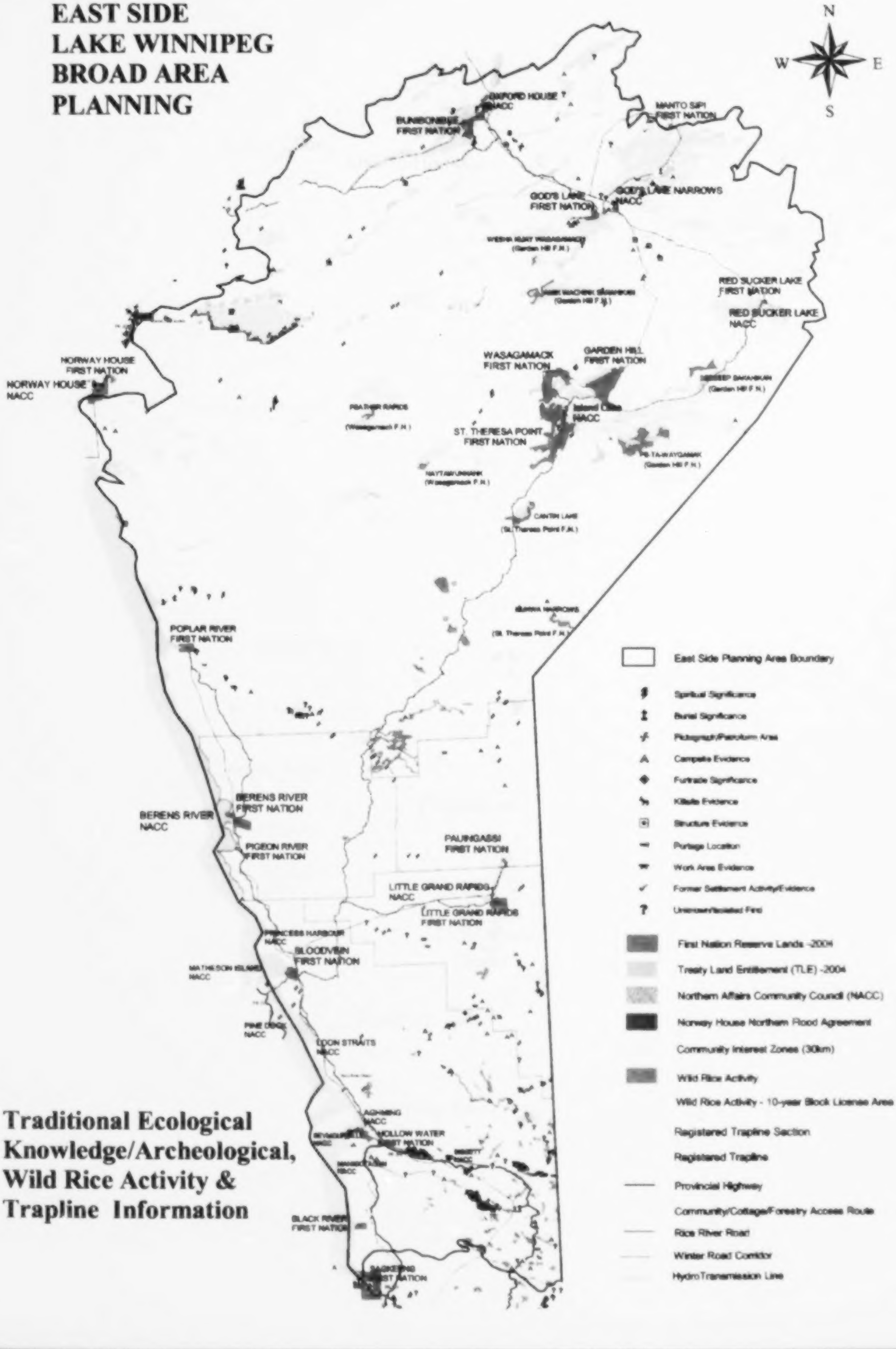
Northern Community Census:
Northern Community Profiles 1996 Census

EAST SIDE LAKE WINNIPEG PLANNING AREA

Community Infrastructure

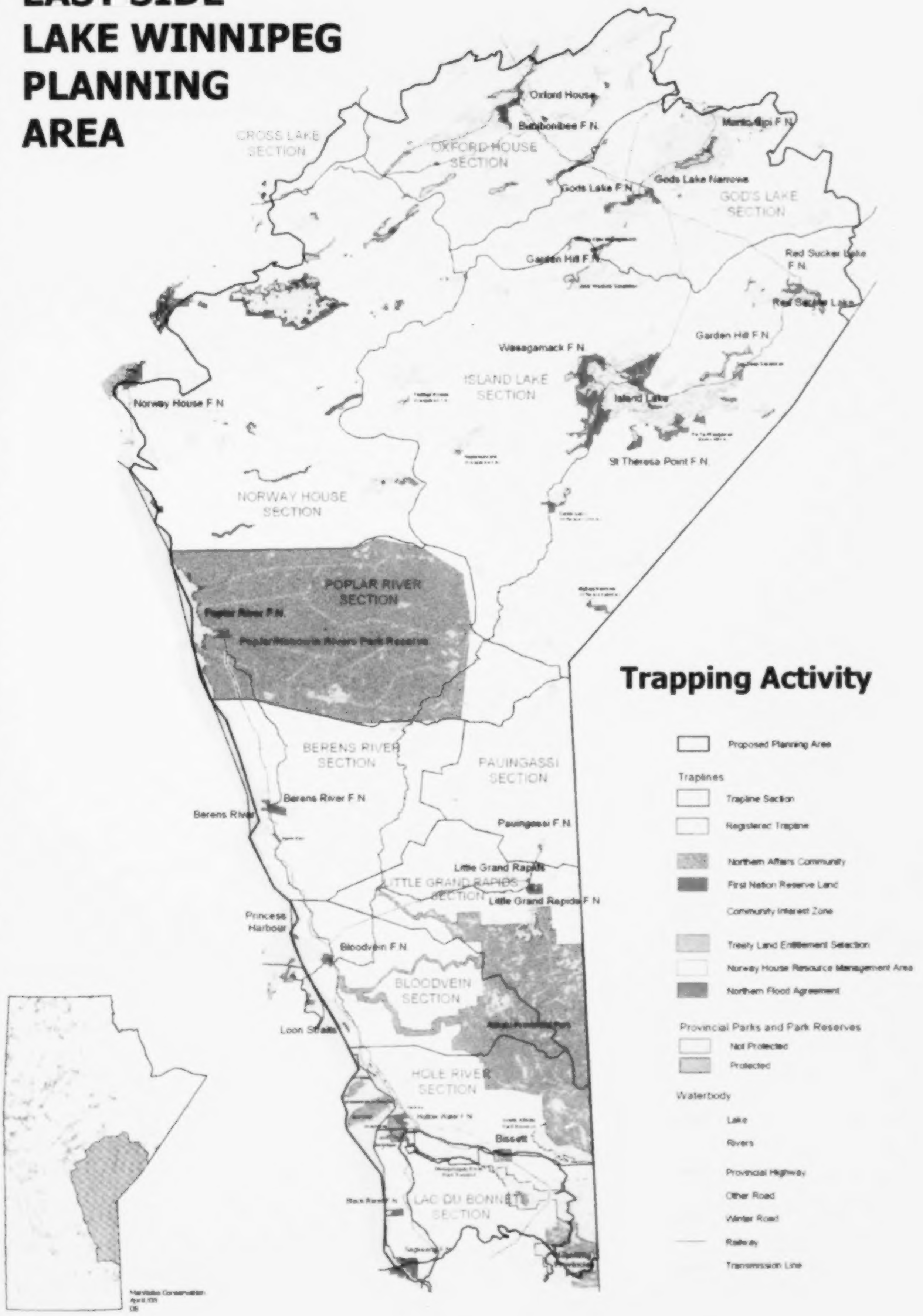

Oxford House
Bunibonibee First Nation
Manto Sipi F.N.
Gods Lake F.N.
Gods Lake Narrows
Garden Hill F.N.
Red Sucker Lake F.N.
Red Sucker Lake
Garden Hill F.N.
Wasagamack F.N.
Island Lake
Norway House FN
Norway House
St Theresa Point F.N.
Poplar River F.N.
Berens River F.N.
Berens River
Pauingassi F.N.
Little Grand Rapids
Little Grand Rapids F.N.
Princess Harbour
Bloodvein F.N.
Matheson Island
Pine Dock
Loon Straits
Hollow Water F.N.
Bissett
Little Black River F.N.
East Side Planning Boundary
Airport
Sea Plane Base
Private Airstrip
Ferry Landing
Small Craft Harbour (Federal)
Small Craft Harbour (Community)
Hydrometric Monitoring Station (Federal)
Lake Winnipeg/Nelson River Water Power Storage Reserve
First Nation Community / Reserve Lands
Community Interest Zone
Northern Affairs Community
Northern Flood Agreement
Treaty Land Entitlement Selection
Resource Management Area (Norway House)
Lake
River
Provincial Road
Other Road (Forestry)
Snowmobile Route (Snowman)
Ferry Crossing Route
Railway
Winter Road Corridor
Winter Road (Frozen Lake/River) Section
Transmission Line Corridor

EAST SIDE LAKE WINNIPEG BROAD AREA PLANNING


N
W
E
S
OXFORD HOUSE NACC
BUNIBONIBEE FIRST NATION
MANTO SIPI FIRST NATION
GOD'S LAKE FIRST NATION
GOD'S LAKE NARROWS NACC
(Garden Hill F.N.)
RED SUCKER LAKE FIRST NATION
RED SUCKER LAKE NACC
NORWAY HOUSE FIRST NATION
NORWAY HOUSE NACC
WASAGAMACK FIRST NATION
GARDEN HILL FIRST NATION
Island Lake NACC
FEATHER RAPIDS (Wasagamack F.N.)
ST. THERESA POINT FIRST NATION
NAYTAWUNNANK (Wasagamack F.N.)
(Garden Hill F.N.)
CANTIN LAKE (St. Theresa Point F.N.)
(St. Theresa Point F.N.)
POPLAR RIVER FIRST NATION
BERENS RIVER FIRST NATION
BERENS RIVER NACC
PIGEON RIVER FIRST NATION
PAUINGASSI FIRST NATION
LITTLE GRAND RAPIDS NACC
LITTLE GRAND RAPIDS FIRST NATION
PRINCESS HARBOUR NACC
BLOODVEIN FIRST NATION
MATHESON ISLAND NACC
PINE DOCK NACC
LOON STRAITS NACC
AGHIMING NACC
HOLLOW WATER FIRST NATION
BISSETT NACC
MANIGOTAGAN NACC
BLACK RIVER FIRST NATION
SAGKEENG FIRST NATION
East Side Planning Area Boundary
Spiritual Significance
Burial Significance
Pictograph/Petroform Area
Campsite Evidence
Furtrade Significance
Killsite Evidence
Structure Evidence
Portage Location
Work Area Evidence
Former Settlement Activity/Evidence
Unknown/Isolated Find
First Nation Reserve Lands -2004
Treaty Land Entitlement (TLE) -2004
Northern Affairs Community Council (NACC)
Norway House Northern Flood Agreement
Community Interest Zones (30km)
Wild Rice Activity
Wild Rice Activity - 10-year Block License Area
Registered Trapline Section
Registered Trapline
Provincial Highway
Community/Cottage/Forestry Access Route
Rice River Road
Winter Road Corridor
Hydro Transmission Line

Traditional Ecological Knowledge/Archeological, Wild Rice Activity & Trapline Information

EAST SIDE LAKE WINNIPEG PLANNING AREA

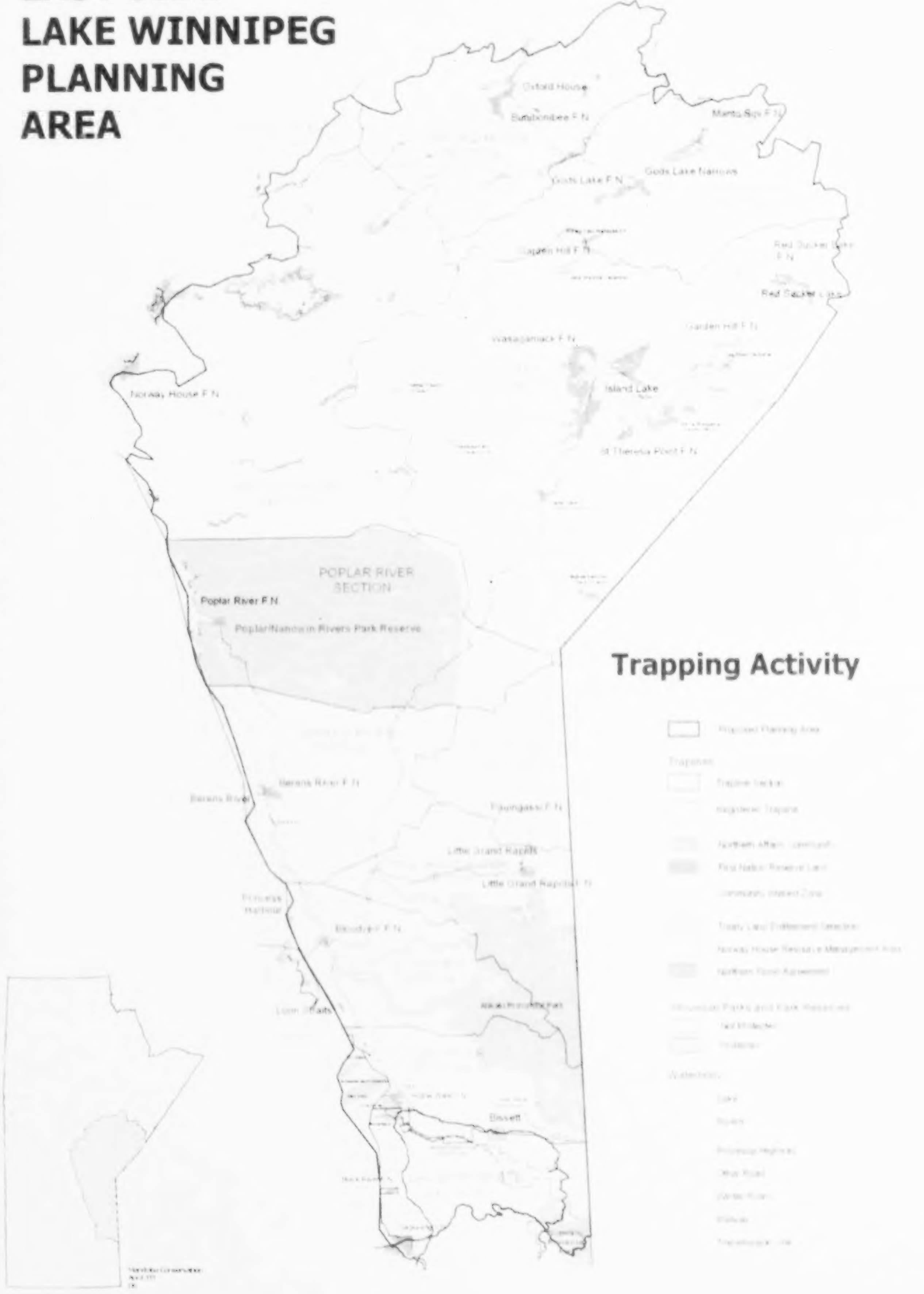


Trapping Activity

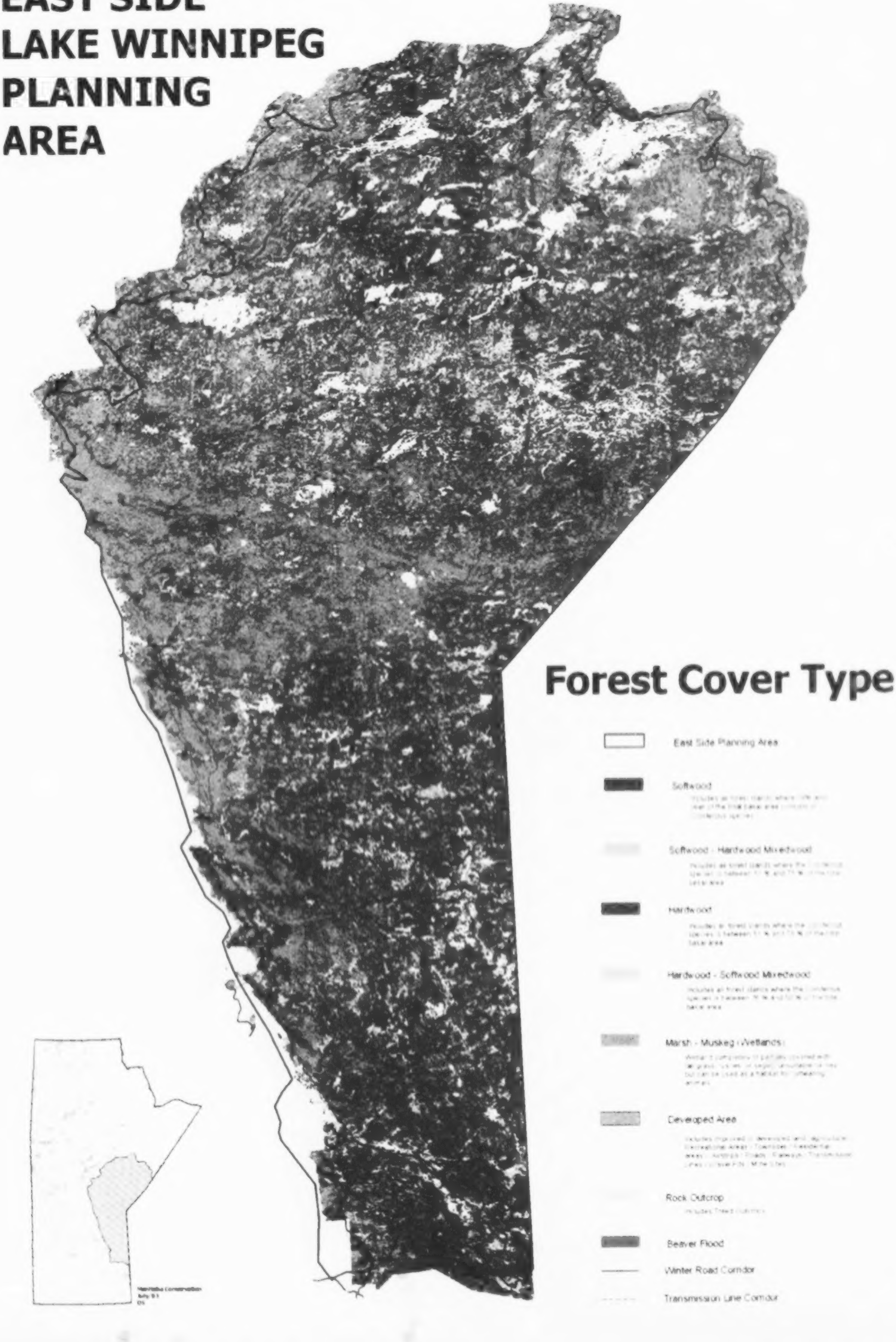
CROSS LAKE SECTION
OXFORD HOUSE SECTION
Oxford House
Bunibonibee F.N.
Manto Sipi F.N.
Gods Lake F.N.
Gods Lake Narrows
GOD'S LAKE SECTION
Garden Hill F.N.
Red Sucker Lake F.N.
Red Sucker Lake
Garden Hill F.N.
Wasagamack F.N.
ISLAND LAKE SECTION
Island Lake
St Theresa Point F.N.
Norway House F.N.
NORWAY HOUSE SECTION
POPLAR RIVER SECTION
Poplar River F.N.
Poplar/Nanowin Rivers Park Reserve
BERENS RIVER SECTION
Berens River F.N.
Berens River
PAUINGASSI SECTION
Pauingassi F.N.
Little Grand Rapids
LITTLE GRAND RAPIDS SECTION
Little Grand Rapids F.N.
Princess Harbour
Bloodvein F.N.
BLOODVEIN SECTION
Atikaki Provincial Park
Loon Straits
HOLE RIVER SECTION
Hollow Water F.N.
Bissett
Black River F.N.
LAC DU BONNET SECTION
Sagkeeng F.N.
Manitoba Conservation
Proposed Planning Area
Traplines
Trapline Section
Registered Trapline
Northern Affairs Community
First Nation Reserve Land
Community Interest Zone
Treaty Land Entitlement Selection
Norway House Resource Management Area
Northern Flood Agreement
Provincial Parks and Park Reserves
Not Protected
Protected
Waterbody
Lake
Rivers
Provincial Highway
Other Road
Winter Road
Railway
Transmission Line

EAST SIDE LAKE WINNIPEG PLANNING AREA

Trapping Activity


Oxford House
Bunibonibee F.N.
Manto Sipi F.N.
Gods Lake F.N.
Gods Lake Narrows
Red Sucker Lake F.N.
Red Sucker Lake
Garden Hill F.N.
Wasagamack F.N.
Island Lake
St Theresa Point F.N.
Norway House F.N.
POPLAR RIVER SECTION
Poplar River F.N.
Poplar/Nanowin Rivers Park Reserve
Berens River F.N.
Berens River
Pauingassi F.N.
Little Grand Rapids
Little Grand Rapids F.N.
Princess Harbour
Bloodvein F.N.
Loon Straits
Atikaki Provincial Park
Bissett
Proposed Planning Area
Traplines
Trapline Section
Registered Trapline
Northern Affairs Community
First Nation Reserve Land
Community Interest Zone
Treaty Land Entitlement Selection
Norway House Resource Management Area
Northern Flood Agreement
Provincial Parks and Park Reserves
Not Protected
Protected
Waterbodies
Lake
Rivers
Provincial Highway
Other Road
Winter Road
Railway
Transmission Line
Manitoba Conservation

EAST SIDE LAKE WINNIPEG PLANNING AREA

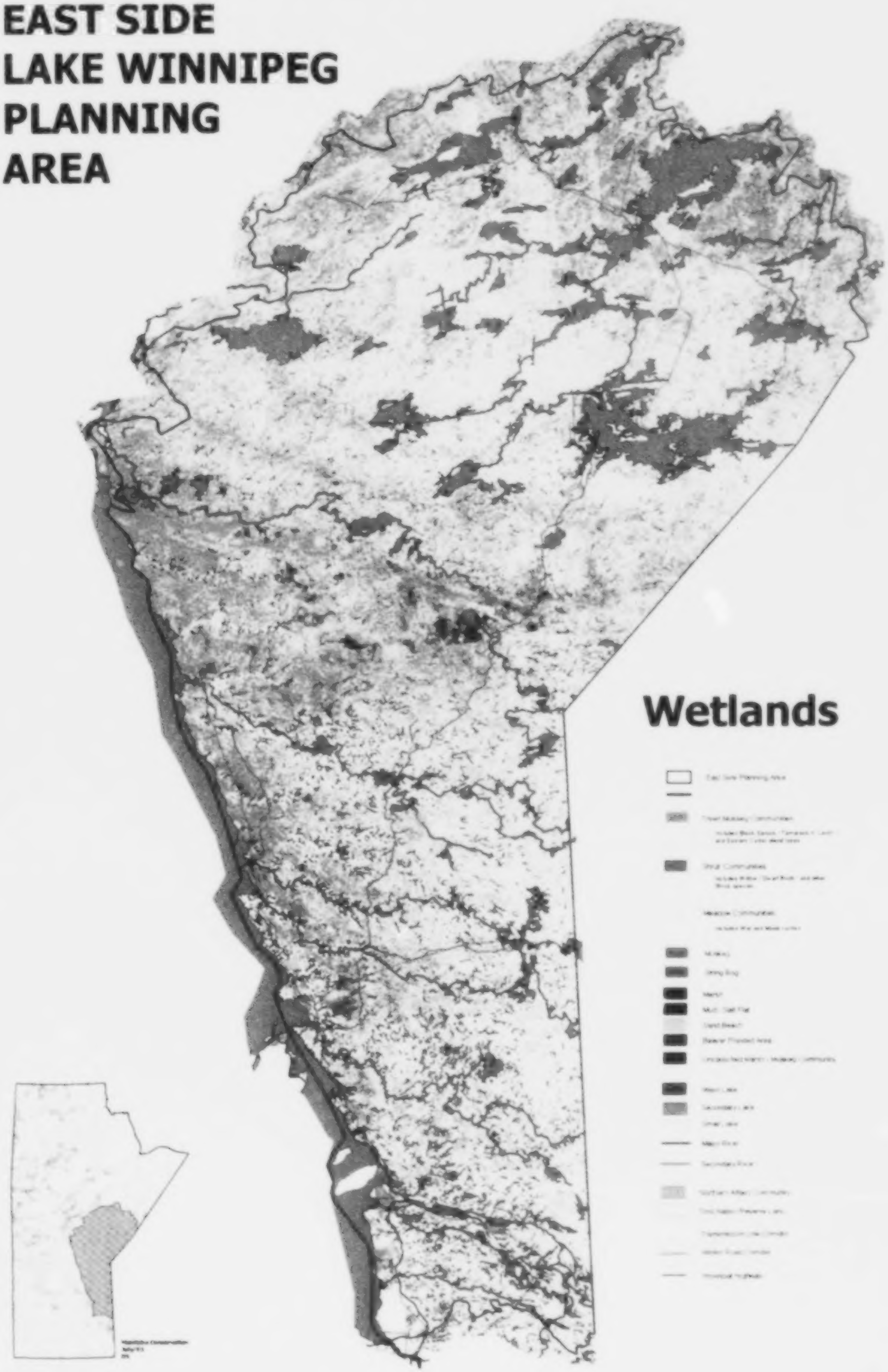


Forest Cover Type

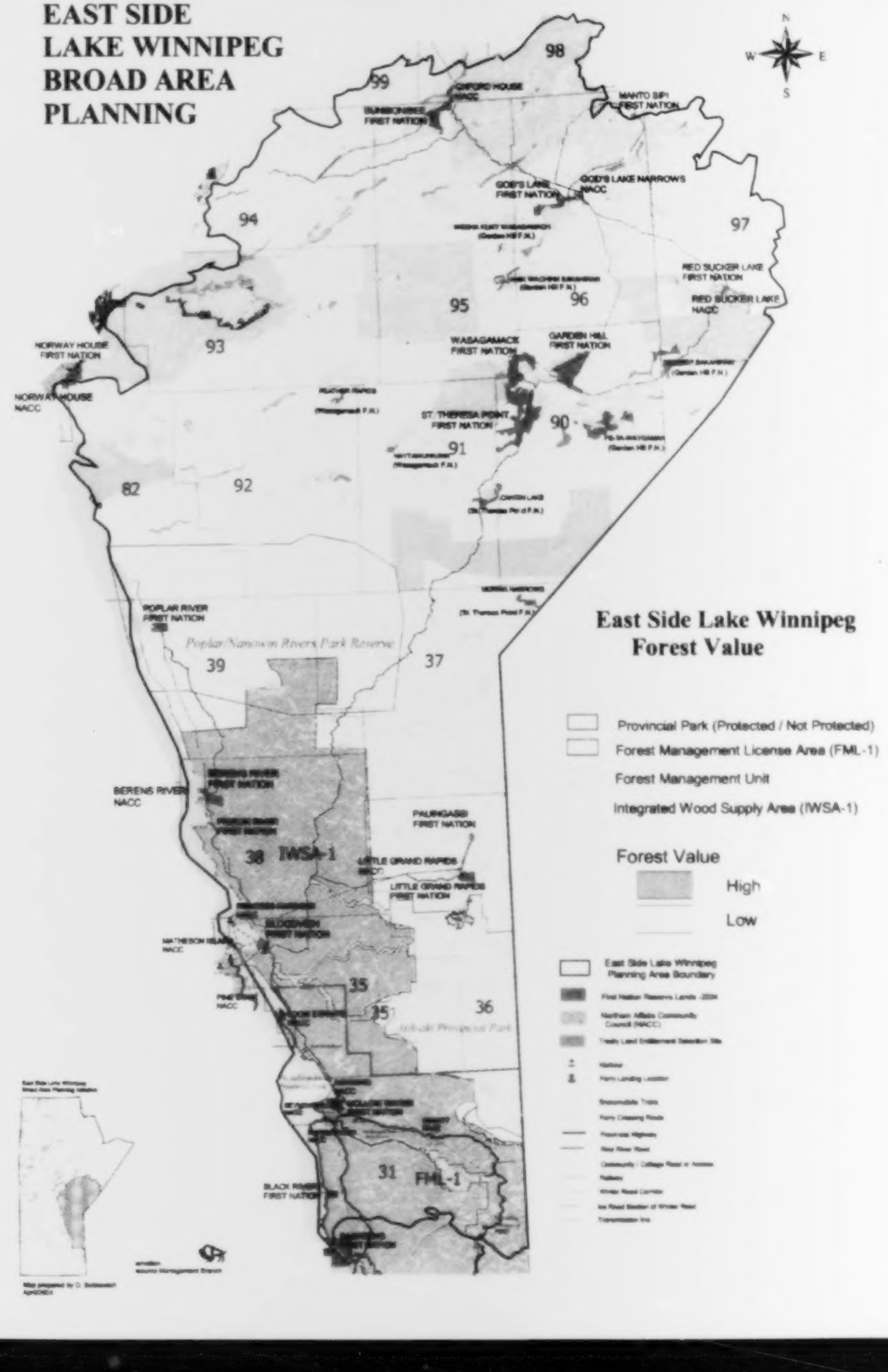
East Side Planning Area
Softwood
Softwood - Hardwood Mixedwood
Hardwood
Hardwood - Softwood Mixedwood
Marsh - Muskeg (Wetlands)
Developed Area
Rock Outcrop
Beaver Flood
Winter Road Corridor
Transmission Line Corridor
Manitoba Conservation

EAST SIDE LAKE WINNIPEG PLANNING AREA

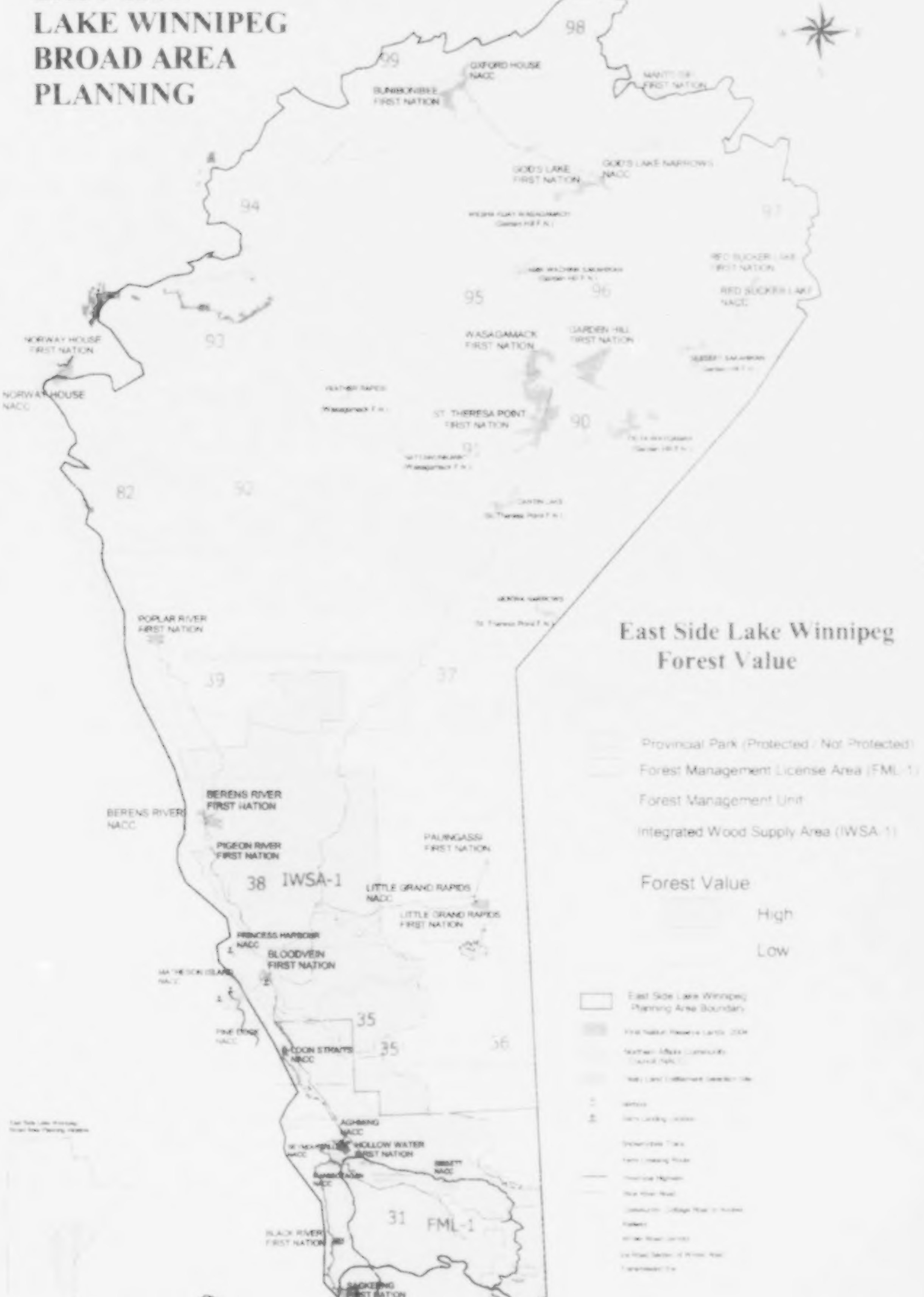
Wetlands


East Side Planning Area
Treed Muskeg Communities
Shrub Communities
Meadow Communities
Muskeg
String Bog
Marsh
Mud / Salt Flat
Sand Beach
Beaver Flooded Area
Unclassified Marsh / Muskeg Community
Major Lake
Secondary Lake
Small Lake
Major River
Secondary River
Northern Affairs Community
First Nation Reserve Land
Transmission Line Corridor
Winter Road Corridor
Provincial Highway
Manitoba Conservation

EAST SIDE LAKE WINNIPEG BROAD AREA PLANNING

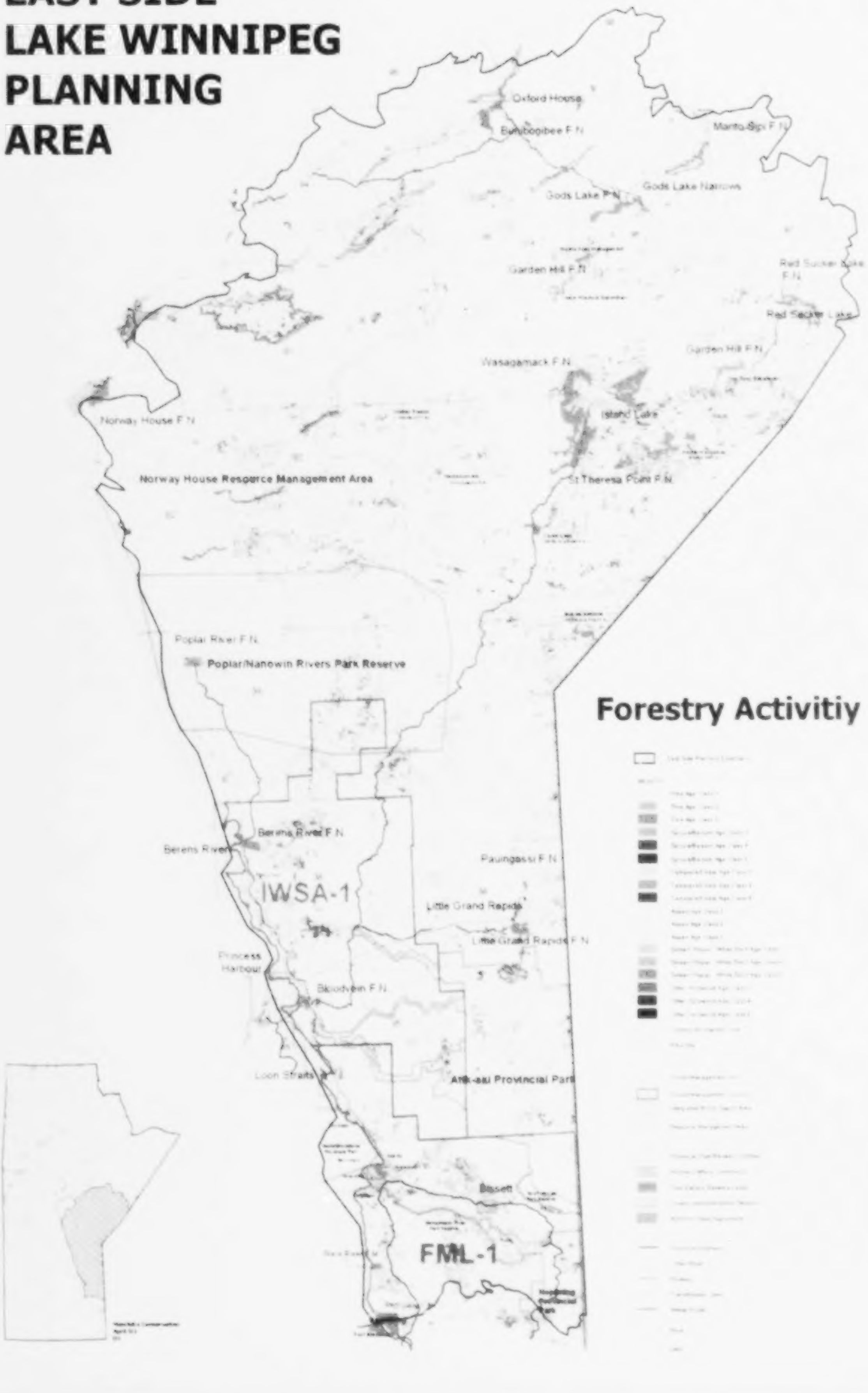

East Side Lake Winnipeg
Forest Value
Provincial Park (Protected / Not Protected)
Forest Management License Area (FML-1)
Forest Management Unit
Integrated Wood Supply Area (IWSA-1)
Forest Value
High
Low
East Side Lake Winnipeg Planning Area Boundary
First Nation Reserve Lands -2004
Northern Affairs Community Council (NACC)
Treaty Land Entitlement Selection Site
Harbour
Ferry Landing Location
Snowmobile Trails
Ferry Crossing Route
Provincial Highway
New River Road
Community / Cottage Road or Access
Railway
Winter Road Corridor
Ice Road Section of Winter Road
Transmission line
N
W
E
S
98
99
OXFORD HOUSE NACC
BUNIBONIBEE FIRST NATION
MANTO SIPI FIRST NATION
GOD'S LAKE FIRST NATION
GOD'S LAKE NARROWS NACC
94
97
RED SUCKER LAKE FIRST NATION
RED SUCKER LAKE NACC
95
96
93
NORWAY HOUSE FIRST NATION
NORWAY HOUSE NACC
WASAGAMACK FIRST NATION
GARDEN HILL FIRST NATION
ST. THERESA POINT FIRST NATION
90
91
92
82
POPLAR RIVER FIRST NATION
Poplar/Nanowin Rivers Park Reserve
39
37
BERENS RIVER NACC
BERENS RIVER FIRST NATION
PAUINGASSI FIRST NATION
38
IWSA-1
LITTLE GRAND RAPIDS NACC
LITTLE GRAND RAPIDS FIRST NATION
BLOODVEIN FIRST NATION
MATHESON ISLAND NACC
PINE DOCK NACC
35
36
Atikaki Provincial Park
31
FML-1
BLACK RIVER FIRST NATION
East Side Lake Winnipeg Broad Area Planning Initiative
Map prepared by D. Sobkowich April 2004

EAST SIDE LAKE WINNIPEG BROAD AREA PLANNING

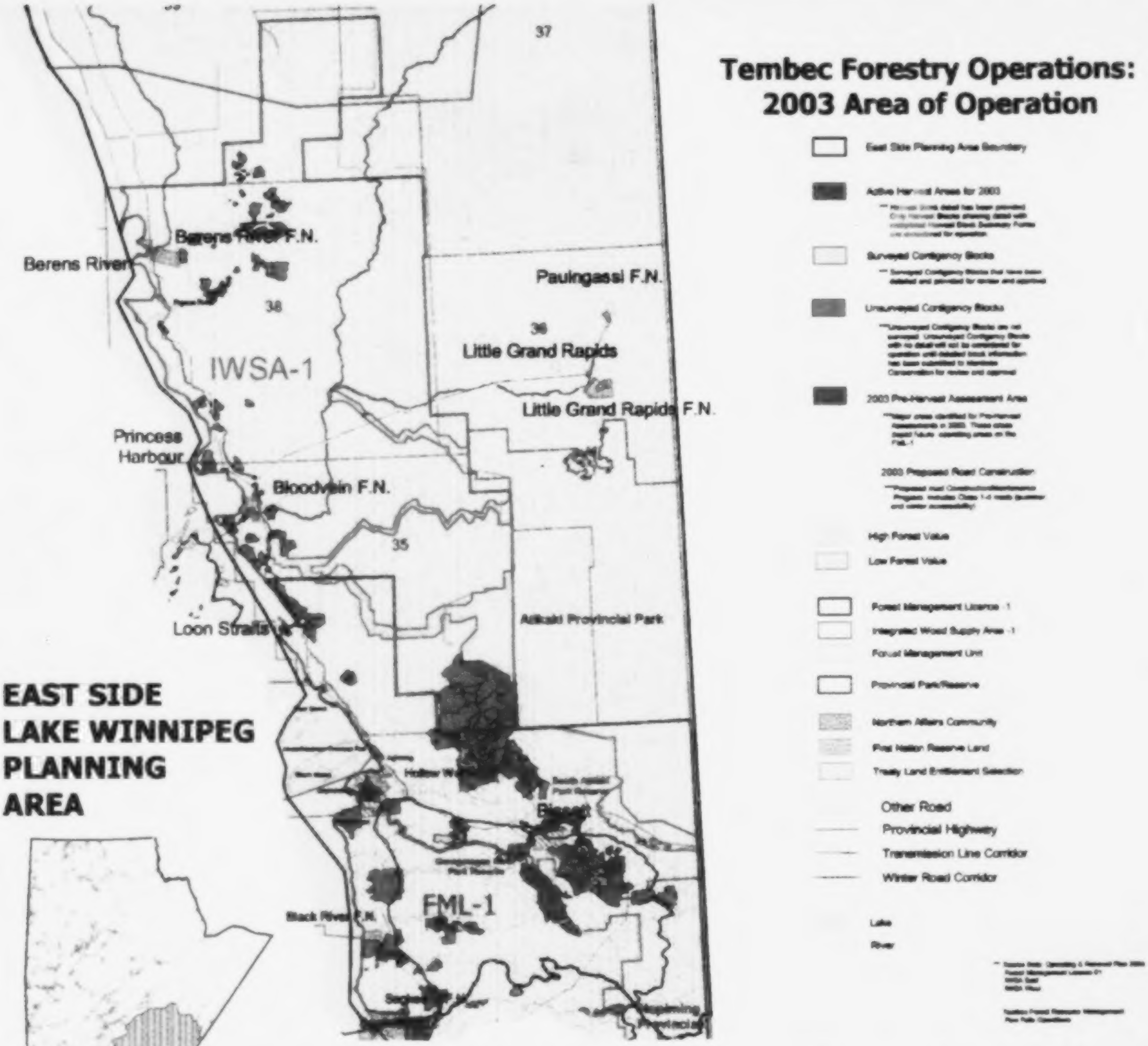

East Side Lake Winnipeg
Forest Value
Provincial Park (Protected / Not Protected)
Forest Management License Area (FML-1)
Forest Management Unit
Integrated Wood Supply Area (IWSA-1)
Forest Value
High
Low
East Side Lake Winnipeg Planning Area Boundary
98
99
94
93
95
96
97
90
91
92
82
39
37
38
35
36
31
IWSA-1
FML-1
OXFORD HOUSE NACC
BUNIBONIBEE FIRST NATION
MANTO SIPI FIRST NATION
GOD'S LAKE FIRST NATION
GOD'S LAKE NARROWS NACC
RED SUCKER LAKE FIRST NATION
RED SUCKER LAKE NACC
WASAGAMACK FIRST NATION
GARDEN HILL FIRST NATION
ST. THERESA POINT FIRST NATION
NORWAY HOUSE FIRST NATION
NORWAY HOUSE NACC
POPLAR RIVER FIRST NATION
BERENS RIVER FIRST NATION
BERENS RIVER NACC
PIGEON RIVER FIRST NATION
PAUINGASSI FIRST NATION
LITTLE GRAND RAPIDS NACC
LITTLE GRAND RAPIDS FIRST NATION
PRINCESS HARBOUR NACC
BLOODVEIN FIRST NATION
MATHESON ISLAND NACC
PINE DOCK NACC
LOON STRAITS NACC
AGHMING NACC
HOLLOW WATER FIRST NATION
SEYMOURVILLE NACC
BISSETT NACC
MANIGOTAGAN NACC
BLACK RIVER FIRST NATION
SAGKEENG FIRST NATION

EAST SIDE LAKE WINNIPEG PLANNING AREA

Forestry Activitiy

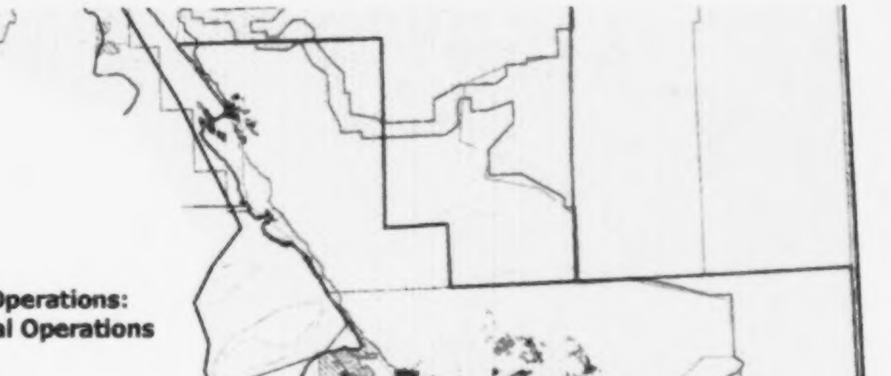

Oxford House
Bunibonibee F.N.
Manto Sipi F.N.
Gods Lake F.N.
Gods Lake Narrows
Garden Hill F.N.
Red Sucker Lake F.N.
Red Sucker Lake
Garden Hill F.N.
Wasagamack F.N.
Island Lake
Norway House F.N.
Norway House Resource Management Area
St Theresa Point F.N.
Poplar River F.N.
Poplar/Nanowin Rivers Park Reserve
Berens River F.N.
Berens River
IWSA-1
Pauingassi F.N.
Little Grand Rapids
Little Grand Rapids F.N.
Princess Harbour
Bloodvein F.N.
Loon Straits
Atikaki Provincial Park
Bissett
FML-1

Tembec Forestry Operations: 2003 Area of Operation

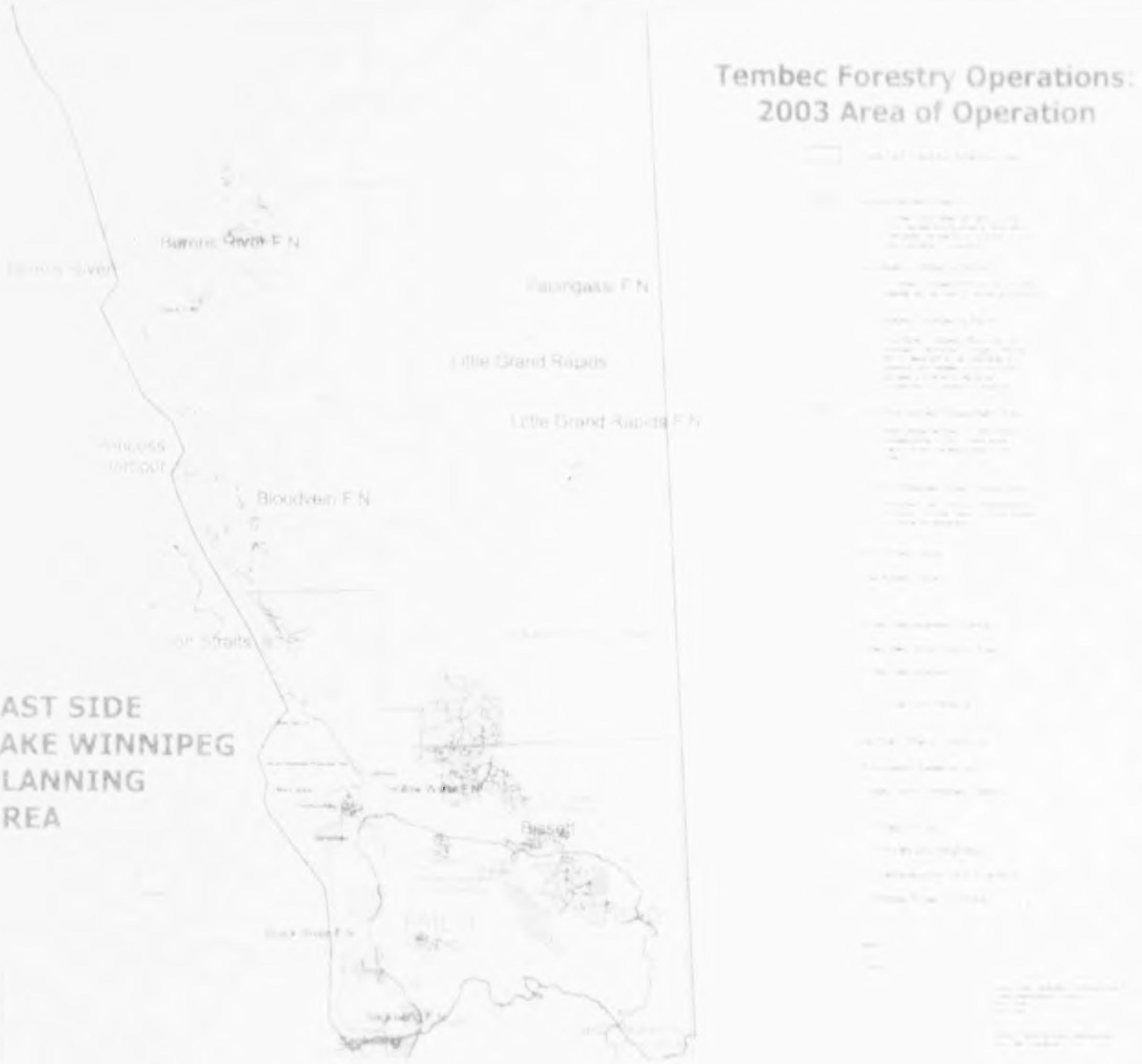

37
Berens River F.N.
Berens River
38
Pauingassi F.N.
36
Little Grand Rapids
IWSA-1
Little Grand Rapids F.N.
Princess Harbour
Bloodvein F.N.
35
Loon Straits
Atikaki Provincial Park
Hollow Water
Bissett
FML-1
Black River F.N.
East Side Planning Area Boundary
Active Harvest Areas for 2003
Surveyed Contigency Blocks
Unsurveyed Contigency Blocks
2003 Pre-Harvest Assessment Area
2003 Proposed Road Construction
High Forest Value
Low Forest Value
Forest Management Licence -1
Integrated Wood Supply Area -1
Forest Management Unit
Provincial Park/Reserve
Northern Affairs Community
First Nation Reserve Land
Treaty Land Entitlement Selection
Other Road
Provincial Highway
Transmission Line Corridor
Winter Road Corridor
Lake
River

EAST SIDE LAKE WINNIPEG PLANNING AREA

Tembec Forestry Operations: 2003 Forest Renewal Operations


31
Stand Tending Areas
*** includes Aerial Herbiciding / Ground Broadcast Chemical / Manual Chemical / Manual (Brush Axe) / Motor Manual (Saw) / Seppi Forest Mower
Site Preparation Areas
*** Activities include Barrels / Drag Chains / Disc Trencher / Natural Burn / Alternate Stripping / Shear Stripping
Planting Areas

EAST SIDE
LAKE WINNIPEG
PLANNING
AREA

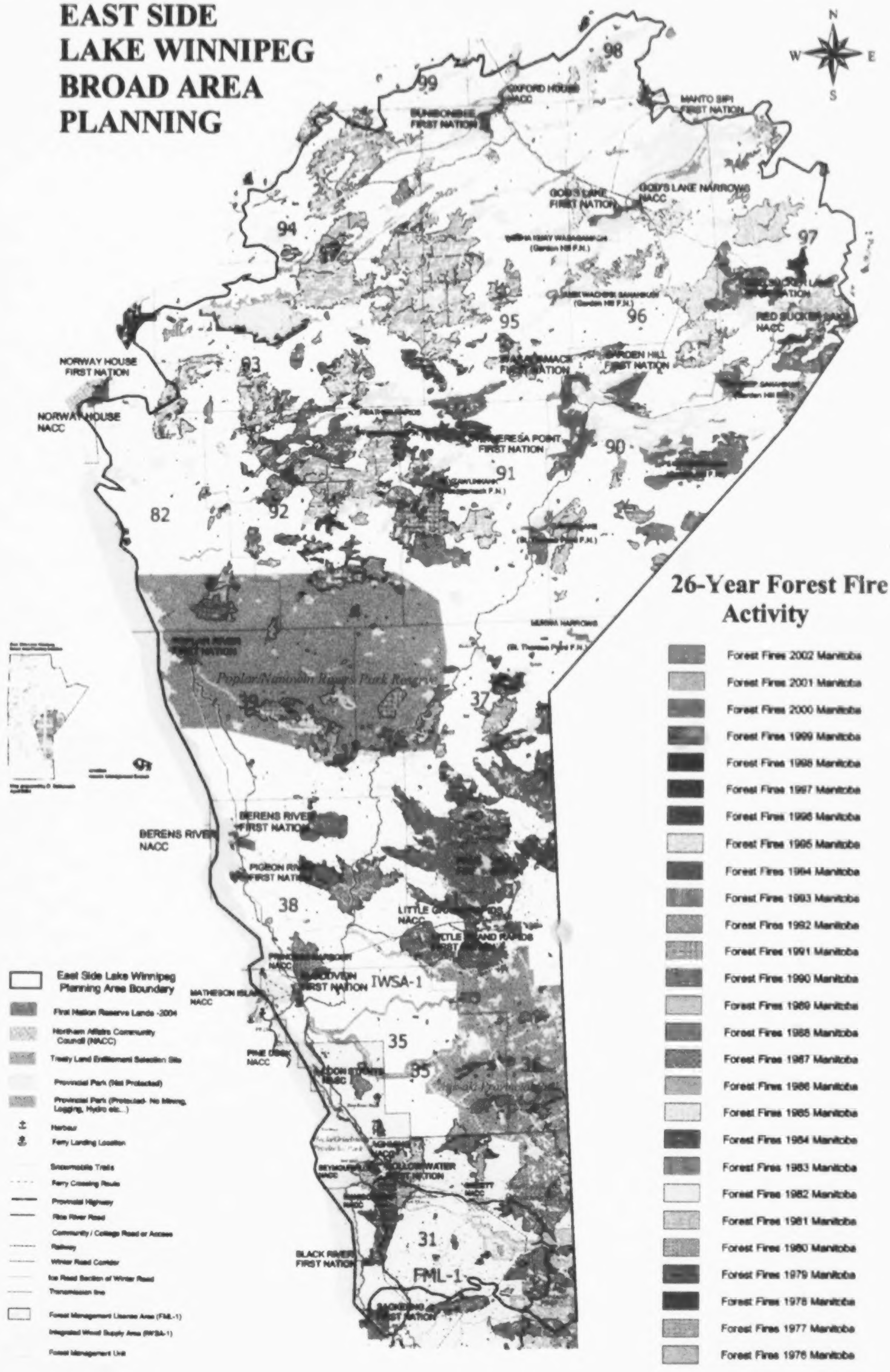


Tembec Forestry Operations:
2003 Area of Operation

Berens River F.N
Berens River
Pauingassi F.N
Little Grand Rapids
Little Grand Rapids F.N
Princess Harbour
Bloodvein F.N
Straits F.N
Hollow Water F.N
Bissett
Black River F.N
Sagkeeng F.N

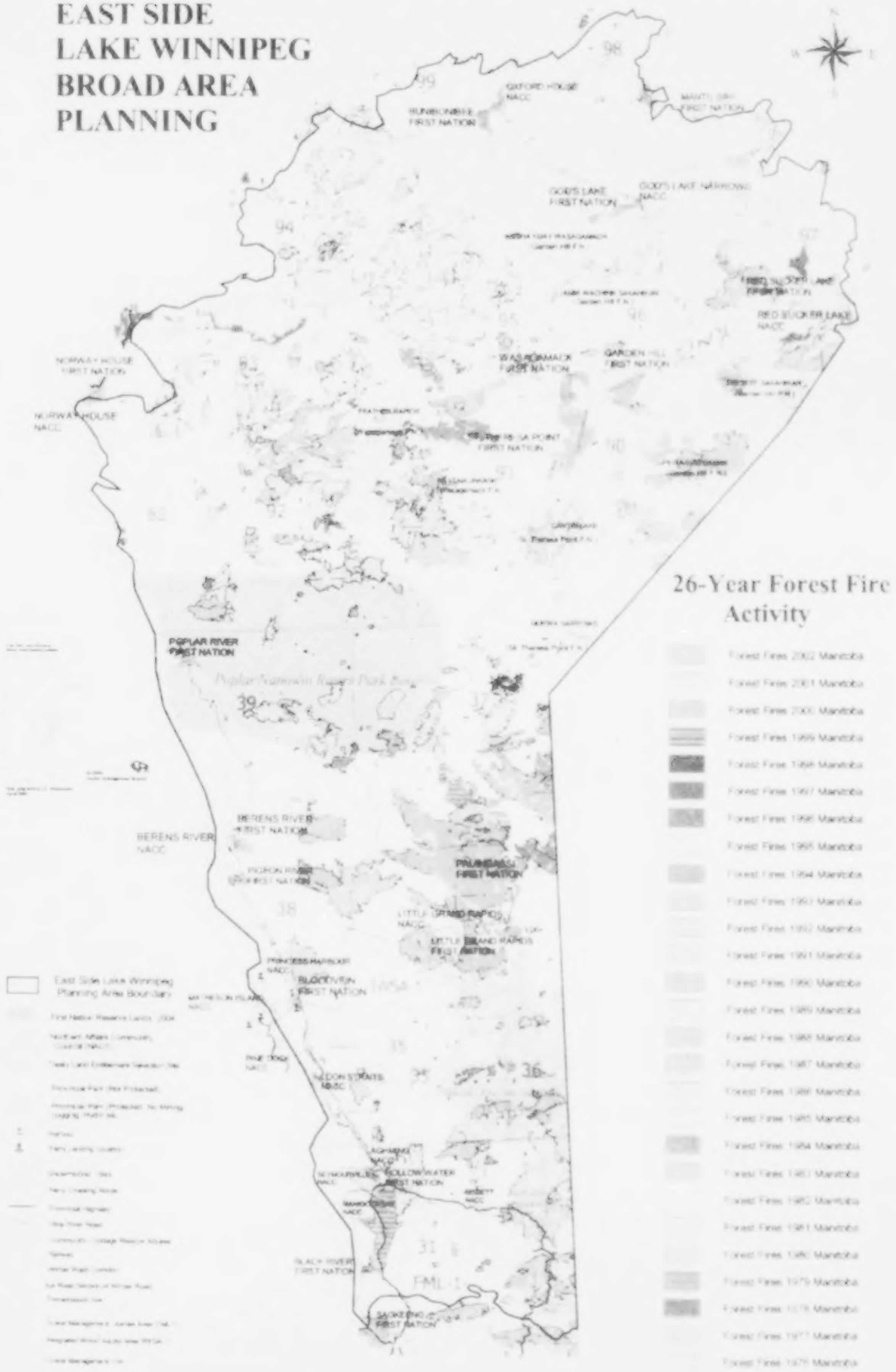
Tembec Forestry Operations:
2003 Forest Renewal Operations

EAST SIDE LAKE WINNIPEG BROAD AREA PLANNING



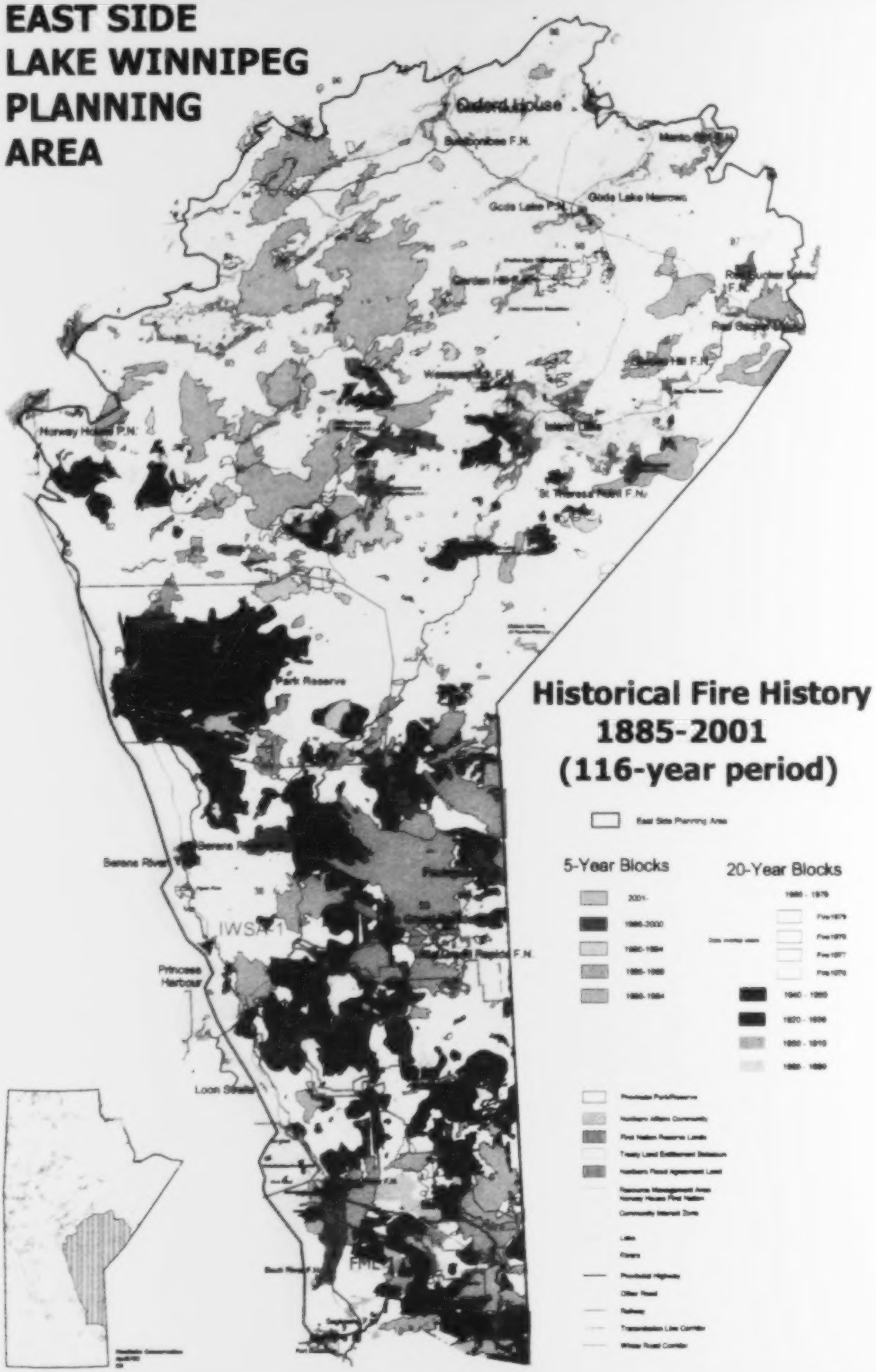
N
W
E
S
98
99
OXFORD HOUSE NACC
BUNIBONIBEE FIRST NATION
MANTO SIPI FIRST NATION
GOD'S LAKE FIRST NATION
GOD'S LAKE NARROWS NACC
94
97
95
96
RED SUCKER LAKE NACC
WASAGAMACK FIRST NATION
GARDEN HILL FIRST NATION
NORWAY HOUSE FIRST NATION
NORWAY HOUSE NACC
93
ST. THERESA POINT FIRST NATION
90
91
82
92
POPLAR RIVER FIRST NATION
Poplar/Nanowin Rivers Park Reserve
37
BERENS RIVER FIRST NATION
BERENS RIVER NACC
PIGEON RIVER FIRST NATION
38
LITTLE GRAND RAPIDS NACC
LITTLE GRAND RAPIDS FIRST NATION
MATHESON ISLAND NACC
HOLLOW WATER FIRST NATION
IWSA-1
PINE DOCK NACC
35
SEYMOURVILLE NACC
BLACK RIVER FIRST NATION
31
FML-1
SAGKEENG FIRST NATION
East Side Lake Winnipeg Planning Area Boundary
First Nation Reserve Lands -2004
Northern Affairs Community Council (NACC)
Treaty Land Entitlement Selection Site
Provincial Park (Not Protected)
Provincial Park (Protected- No Mining, Logging, Hydro etc...)
Harbour
Ferry Landing Location
Snowmobile Trails
Ferry Crossing Route
Provincial Highway
Rice River Road
Community / Cottage Road or Access
Railway
Winter Road Corridor
Ice Road Section of Winter Road
Transmission line
Forest Management License Area (FML-1)
Integrated Wood Supply Area (IWSA-1)
Forest Management Unit
26-Year Forest Fire Activity
Forest Fires 2002 Manitoba
Forest Fires 2001 Manitoba
Forest Fires 2000 Manitoba
Forest Fires 1999 Manitoba
Forest Fires 1998 Manitoba
Forest Fires 1997 Manitoba
Forest Fires 1996 Manitoba
Forest Fires 1995 Manitoba
Forest Fires 1994 Manitoba
Forest Fires 1993 Manitoba
Forest Fires 1992 Manitoba
Forest Fires 1991 Manitoba
Forest Fires 1990 Manitoba
Forest Fires 1989 Manitoba
Forest Fires 1988 Manitoba
Forest Fires 1987 Manitoba
Forest Fires 1986 Manitoba
Forest Fires 1985 Manitoba
Forest Fires 1984 Manitoba
Forest Fires 1983 Manitoba
Forest Fires 1982 Manitoba
Forest Fires 1981 Manitoba
Forest Fires 1980 Manitoba
Forest Fires 1979 Manitoba
Forest Fires 1978 Manitoba
Forest Fires 1977 Manitoba
Forest Fires 1976 Manitoba

EAST SIDE LAKE WINNIPEG BROAD AREA PLANNING

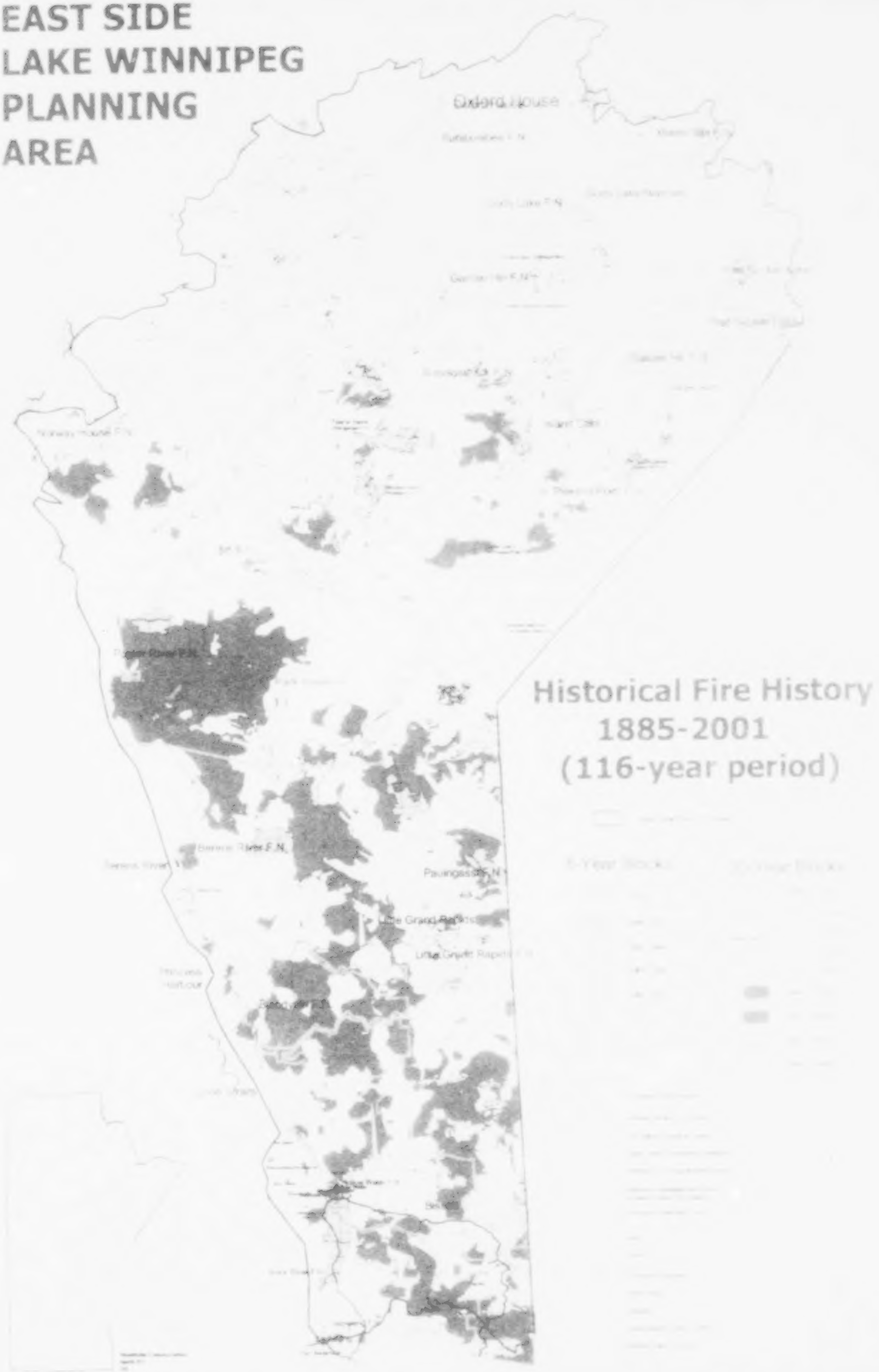

26-Year Forest Fire Activity
Forest Fires 2002 Manitoba
Forest Fires 2001 Manitoba
Forest Fires 2000 Manitoba
Forest Fires 1999 Manitoba
Forest Fires 1998 Manitoba
Forest Fires 1997 Manitoba
Forest Fires 1996 Manitoba
Forest Fires 1995 Manitoba
Forest Fires 1994 Manitoba
Forest Fires 1993 Manitoba
Forest Fires 1992 Manitoba
Forest Fires 1991 Manitoba
Forest Fires 1990 Manitoba
Forest Fires 1989 Manitoba
Forest Fires 1988 Manitoba
Forest Fires 1987 Manitoba
Forest Fires 1986 Manitoba
Forest Fires 1985 Manitoba
Forest Fires 1984 Manitoba
Forest Fires 1983 Manitoba
Forest Fires 1982 Manitoba
Forest Fires 1981 Manitoba
Forest Fires 1980 Manitoba
Forest Fires 1979 Manitoba
Forest Fires 1978 Manitoba
Forest Fires 1977 Manitoba
Forest Fires 1976 Manitoba
N
W
E
S
98
99
OXFORD HOUSE NACC
BUNIBONIBEE FIRST NATION
MANTO SIPI FIRST NATION
GOD'S LAKE FIRST NATION
GOD'S LAKE NARROWS NACC
94
97
RED SUCKER LAKE FIRST NATION
RED SUCKER LAKE NACC
95
96
WASAGAMACK FIRST NATION
GARDEN HILL FIRST NATION
NORWAY HOUSE FIRST NATION
NORWAY HOUSE NACC
ST. THERESA POINT FIRST NATION
90
93
92
POPLAR RIVER FIRST NATION
Poplar Nanowin Rivers Park Reserve
39
BERENS RIVER FIRST NATION
BERENS RIVER NACC
PIGEON RIVER FIRST NATION
PAUINGASSI FIRST NATION
38
LITTLE GRAND RAPIDS NACC
LITTLE GRAND RAPIDS FIRST NATION
PRINCESS HARBOUR NACC
BLOODVEIN FIRST NATION
MATHESON ISLAND NACC
35
PINE DOCK NACC
LOON STRAITS NACC
36
AGHAMING NACC
SEYMOURVILLE NACC
HOLLOW WATER FIRST NATION
MANIGOTAGAN NACC
BISSETT NACC
31
BLACK RIVER FIRST NATION
FML-1
SAGKEENG FIRST NATION
East Side Lake Winnipeg Planning Area Boundary
First Nation Reserve Lands 2004
Northern Affairs Community Council (NACC)
Treaty Land Entitlement Selection Site
Provincial Park (Not Protected)
Provincial Park (Protected: No Mining, Logging, Hydro etc.)

EAST SIDE LAKE WINNIPEG PLANNING AREA

Historical Fire History 1885-2001 (116-year period)


Oxford House
Bunibonibee F.N.
Manto Sipi F.N.
Gods Lake F.N.
Gods Lake Narrows
Garden Hill F.N.
Red Sucker Lake F.N.
Red Sucker Lake
Wasagamack F.N.
Island Lake
Norway House F.N.
St Theresa Point F.N.
Park Reserve
Berens River
IWSA-1
Princess Harbour
Loon Straits
FML
East Side Planning Area
5-Year Blocks
20-Year Blocks
2001-
1990-1994
1940 - 1959
Provincial Park/Reserve
Northern Affairs Community
First Nation Reserve Lands
Treaty Land Entitlement Selection
Northern Flood Agreement Land
Resource Management Area Norway House First Nation
Community Interest Zone
Lakes
Rivers
Provincial Highway
Other Road
Railway
Transmission Line Corridor
Winter Road Corridor
Manitoba Conservation

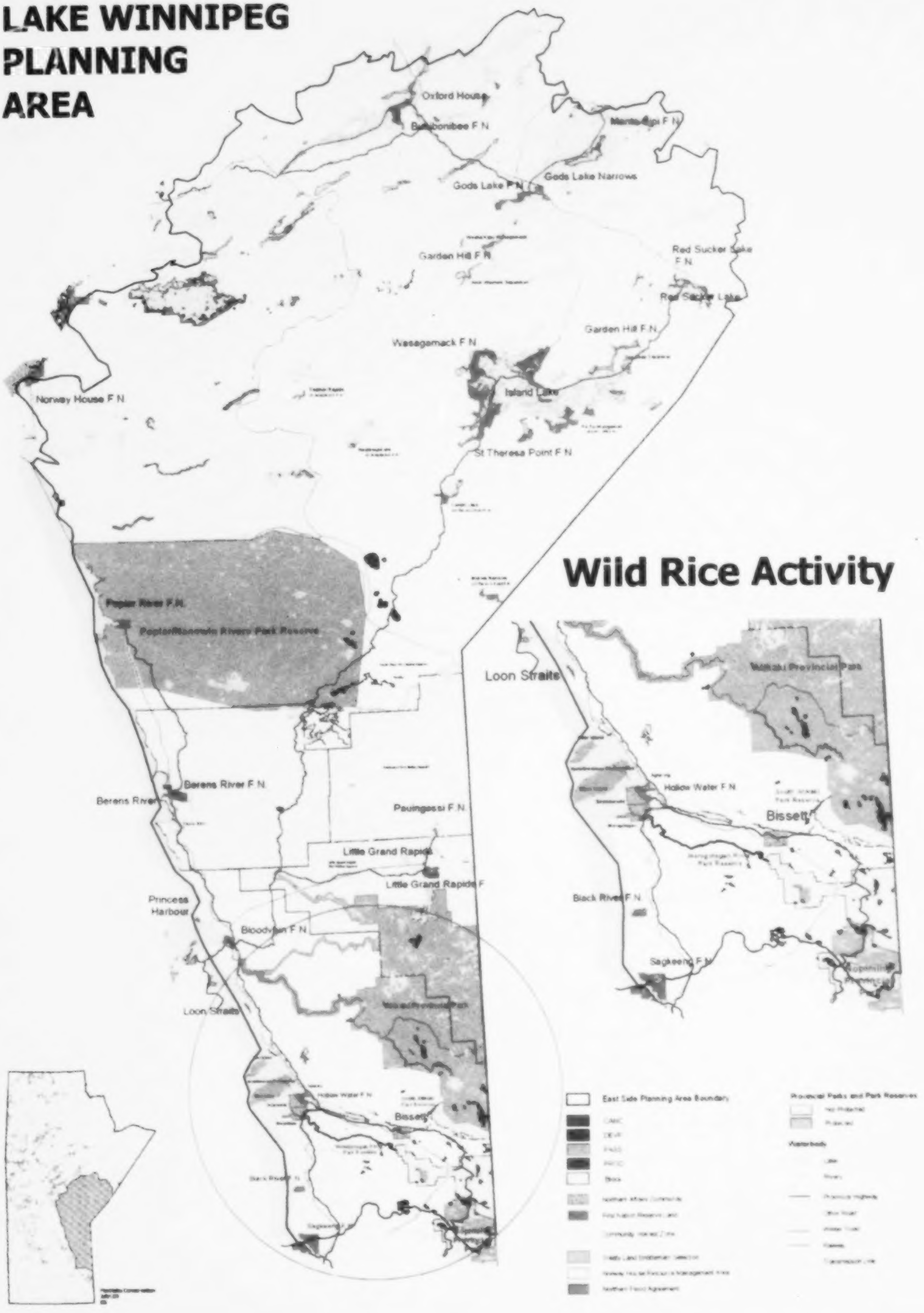
EAST SIDE LAKE WINNIPEG PLANNING AREA


Oxford House
Poplar River F.N.
Berens River F.N.
Pauingassi F.N.
Little Grand Rapids
Little Grand Rapids F.N.
5-Year Blocks
10-Year Blocks

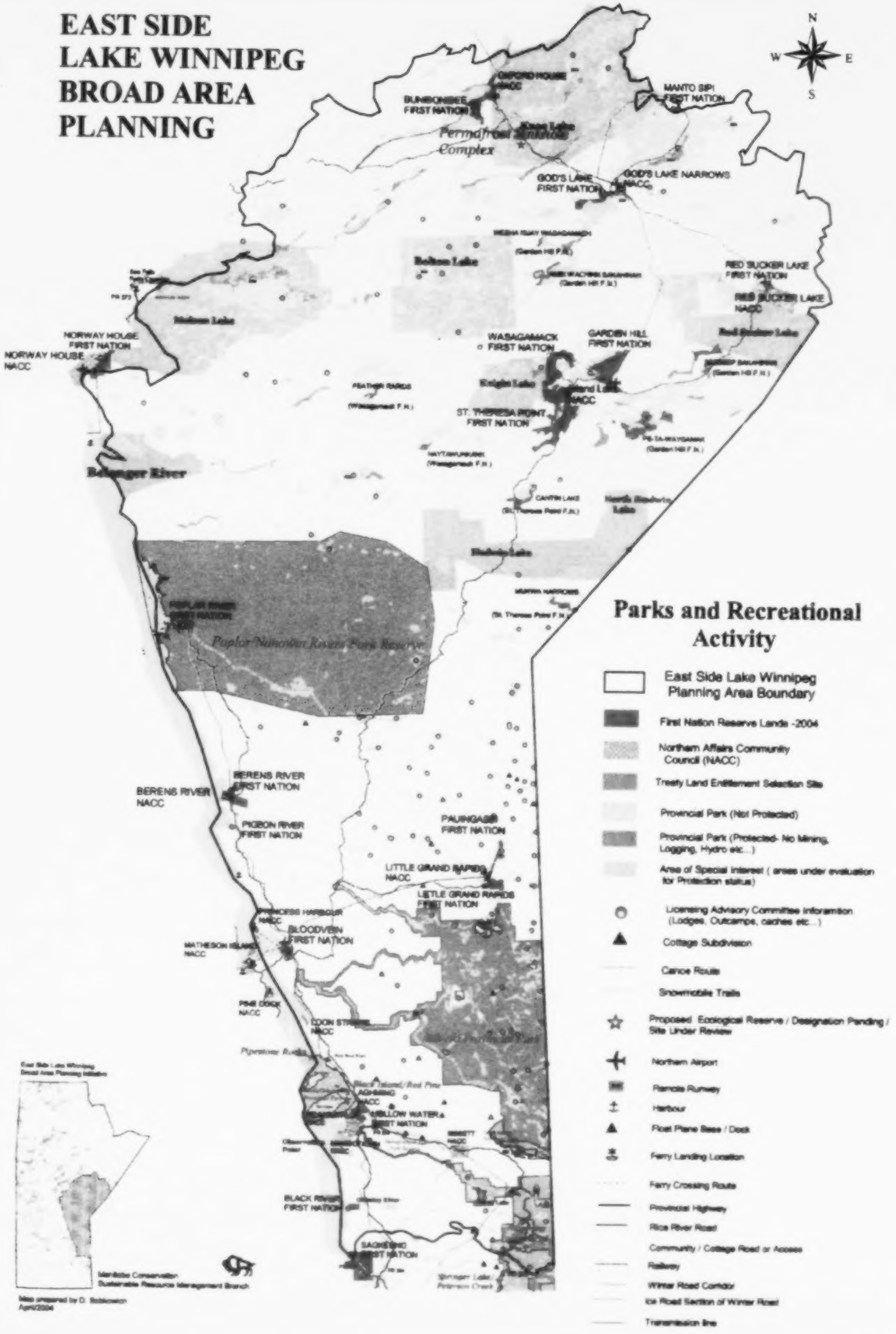
Historical Fire History 1885-2001 (116-year period)

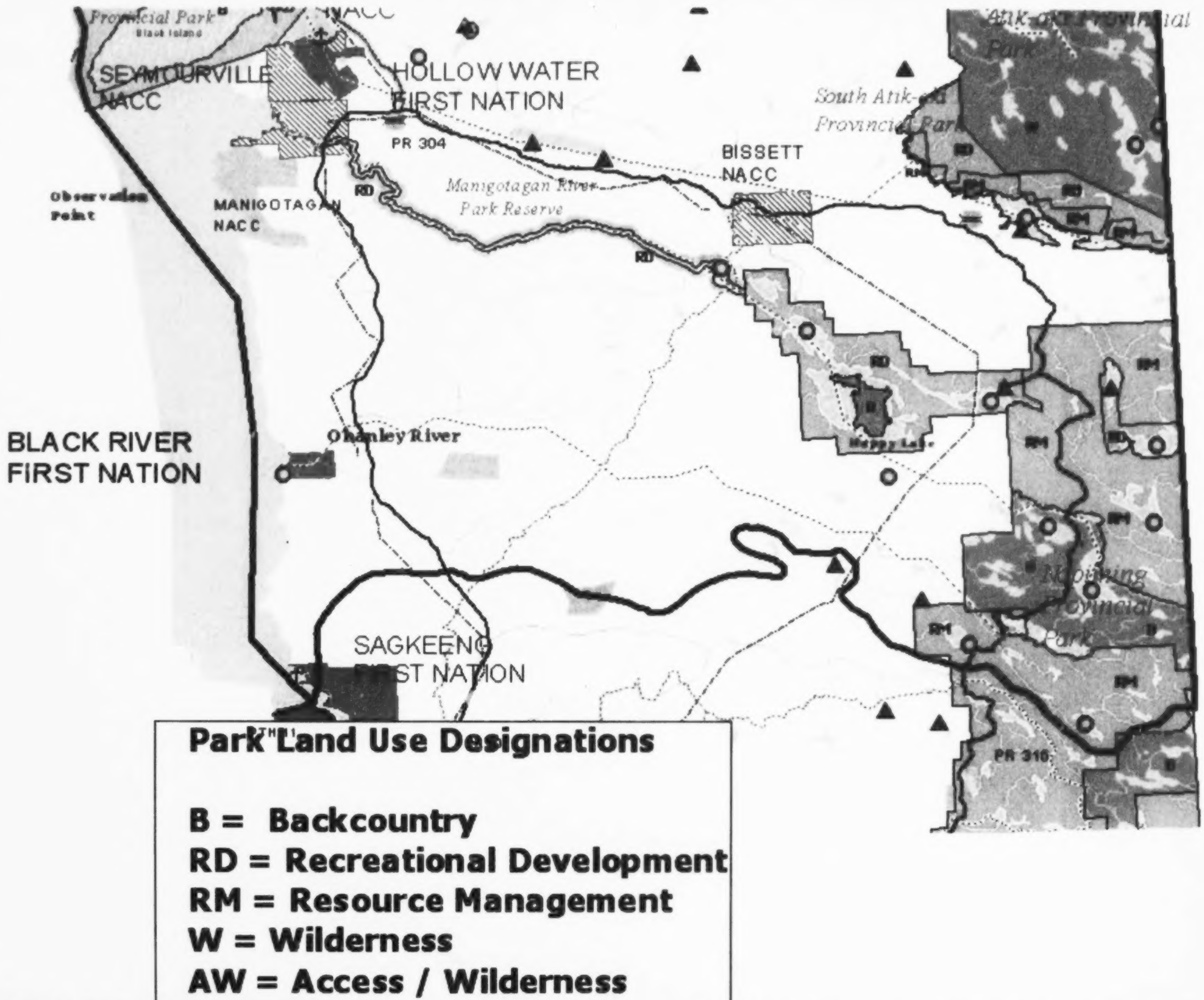
EAST SIDE LAKE WINNIPEG PLANNING AREA

Wild Rice Activity


Oxford House
Bunibonibee F.N.
Manto Sipi F.N.
Gods Lake F.N.
Gods Lake Narrows
Garden Hill F.N.
Red Sucker Lake F.N.
Red Sucker Lake
Garden Hill F.N.
Wasagamack F.N.
Island Lake
Norway House F.N.
St Theresa Point F.N.
Poplar River F.N.
Poplar/Nanowin Rivers Park Reserve
Berens River F.N.
Berens River
Pauingassi F.N.
Little Grand Rapids
Little Grand Rapids F.N.
Princess Harbour
Bloodvein F.N.
Loon Straits
Atikaki Provincial Park
Hollow Water F.N.
Bissett
Black River F.N.
Sagkeeng F.N.
Loon Straits
Atikaki Provincial Park
Hollow Water F.N.
Bissett
Black River F.N.
Sagkeeng F.N.
East Side Planning Area Boundary
CAMC
DEVP
PASS
PRTC
Block
Northern Affairs Community
First Nation Reserve Land
Community Interest Zone
Treaty Land Entitlement Selection
Norway House Resource Management Area
Northern Flood Agreement
Provincial Parks and Park Reserves
Not Protected
Protected
Waterbody
Lake
Rivers
Provincial Highway
Other Road
Winter Road
Railway
Transmission Line
Manitoba Conservation

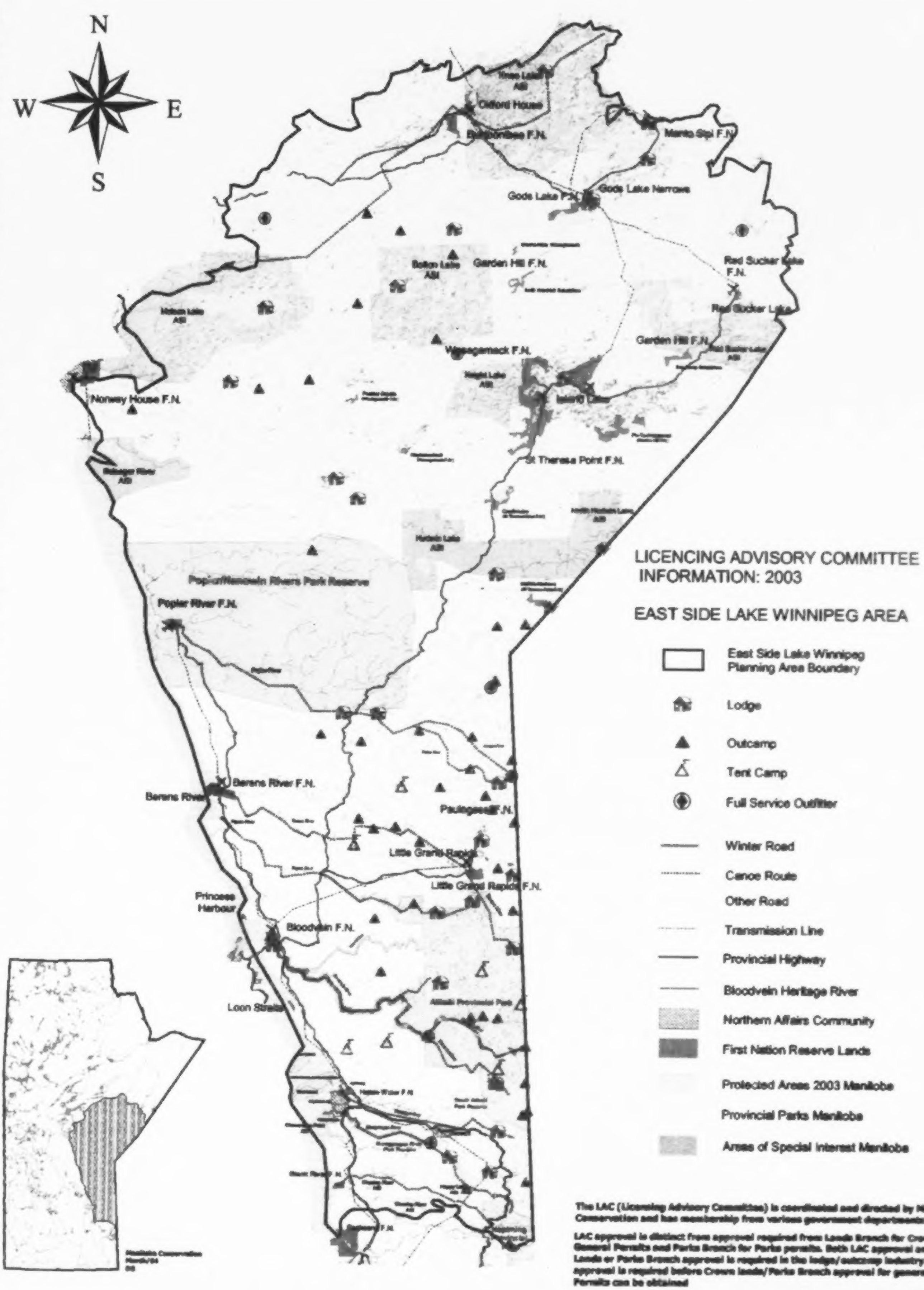
EAST SIDE LAKE WINNIPEG BROAD AREA PLANNING


N
W
E
S
OXFORD HOUSE NACC
BUNIBONIBEE FIRST NATION
MANTO SIPI FIRST NATION
Permafrost Complex
GOD'S LAKE FIRST NATION
GOD'S LAKE NARROWS NACC
Bolton Lake
RED SUCKER LAKE FIRST NATION
RED SUCKER LAKE NACC
Red Sucker Lake
NORWAY HOUSE FIRST NATION
NORWAY HOUSE NACC
WASAGAMACK FIRST NATION
GARDEN HILL FIRST NATION
Knight Lake
ST. THERESA POINT FIRST NATION
FEATHER RAPIDS
Belanger River
North Stadnyk Lake
POPLAR RIVER FIRST NATION
Poplar/Nanowin Rivers Park Reserve
BERENS RIVER NACC
BERENS RIVER FIRST NATION
PIGEON RIVER FIRST NATION
PAUINGASSI FIRST NATION
LITTLE GRAND RAPIDS NACC
LITTLE GRAND RAPIDS FIRST NATION
PRINCESS HARBOUR NACC
BLOODVEIN FIRST NATION
MATHESON ISLAND NACC
PINE DOCK NACC
CONN STRIPS NACC
Pipestone Rocks
Black Island/Red Pine
AGHAING NACC
HOLLOW WATER FIRST NATION
BISSETT NACC
BLACK RIVER FIRST NATION
SAGKEENG FIRST NATION
Springer Lake
Peterson Creek
East Side Lake Winnipeg Broad Area Planning Initiative
Manitoba Conservation
Sustainable Resource Management Branch
Map prepared by D. Sobkowicz
April 2004
Parks and Recreational Activity
East Side Lake Winnipeg Planning Area Boundary
First Nation Reserve Lands -2004
Northern Affairs Community Council (NACC)
Treaty Land Entitlement Selection Site
Provincial Park (Not Protected)
Provincial Park (Protected- No Mining, Logging, Hydro etc...)
Area of Special Interest (areas under evaluation for Protection status)
Licensing Advisory Committee Information (Lodges, Outcamps, caches etc...)
Cottage Subdivision
Canoe Route
Snowmobile Trails
Proposed Ecological Reserve / Designation Pending / Site Under Review
Northern Airport
Remote Runway
Harbour
Float Plane Base / Dock
Ferry Landing Location
Ferry Crossing Route
Provincial Highway
Rice River Road
Community / Cottage Road or Access
Railway
Winter Road Corridor
Ice Road Section of Winter Road
Transmission line


Provincial Park
Black Island
SEYMOURVILLE NACC
NACC
HOLLOW WATER FIRST NATION
PR 304
South Atik-aki Provincial Park
Atik-aki Provincial Park
BISSETT NACC
Manigotagan River Park Reserve
Observation Point
MANIGOTAGAN NACC
RD
BLACK RIVER FIRST NATION
O'Hanley River
Happy Lake
RM
B
Nopiming Provincial Park
SAGKEENG FIRST NATION
PR 315

Park Land Use Designations

B = Backcountry
RD = Recreational Development
RM = Resource Management
W = Wilderness
AW = Access / Wilderness


N
W
E
S
Knee Lake ASI
Oxford House
Bunibonibee F.N.
Manto Sipi F.N.
Gods Lake F.N.
Gods Lake Narrows
Red Sucker Lake F.N.
Red Sucker Lake
Bolton Lake ASI
Garden Hill F.N.
Molson Lake ASI
Garden Hill F.N.
Wasagamack F.N.
Knight Lake ASI
Island Lake
Norway House F.N.
Echoing River ASI
St Theresa Point F.N.
Harbin Lake ASI
Poplar/Nanowin Rivers Park Reserve
Poplar River F.N.
Berens River F.N.
Berens River
Pauingassi F.N.
Little Grand Rapids
Little Grand Rapids F.N.
Princess Harbour
Bloodvein F.N.
Loon Straits
Atikaki Provincial Park
Hollow Water F.N.
Black River F.N.
Sagkeeng F.N.
Manitoba Conservation
East Side Lake Winnipeg Planning Area Boundary
Lodge
Outcamp
Tent Camp
Full Service Outfitter
Winter Road
Canoe Route
Other Road
Transmission Line
Provincial Highway
Bloodvein Heritage River
Northern Affairs Community
First Nation Reserve Lands
Protected Areas 2003 Manitoba
Provincial Parks Manitoba
Areas of Special Interest Manitoba

LICENCING ADVISORY COMMITTEE INFORMATION: 2003

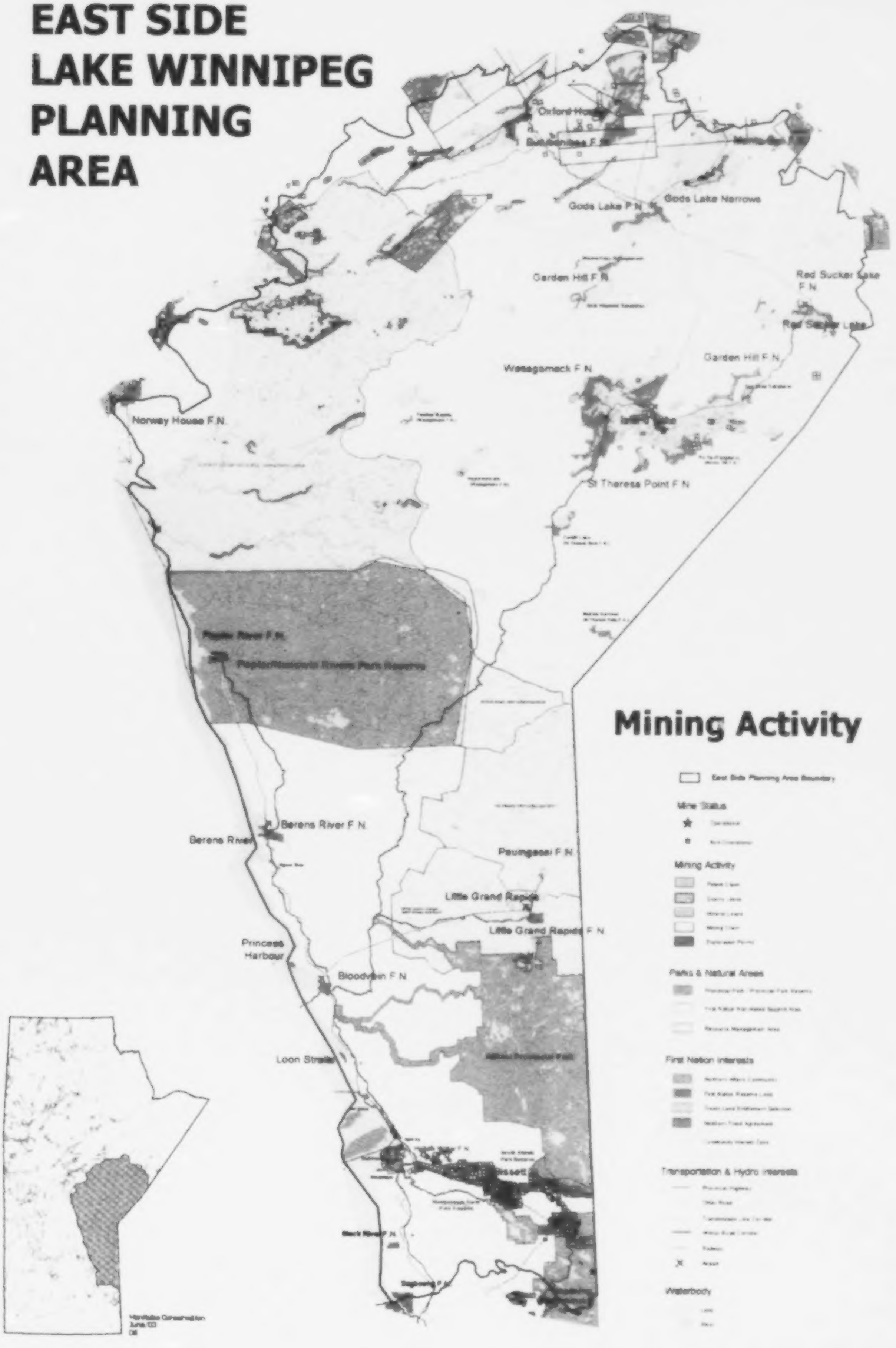
EAST SIDE LAKE WINNIPEG AREA

The LAC (Licensing Advisory Committee) is coordinated and directed by Manitoba Conservation and has membership from various government departments

LAC approval is distinct from approval required from Lands Branch for Crown land General Permits and Parks Branch for Parks permits. Both LAC approval and Crown Lands or Parks Branch approval is required in the lodge/outcamp industry. LAC approval is required before Crown lands/Parks Branch approval for general Permits can be obtained

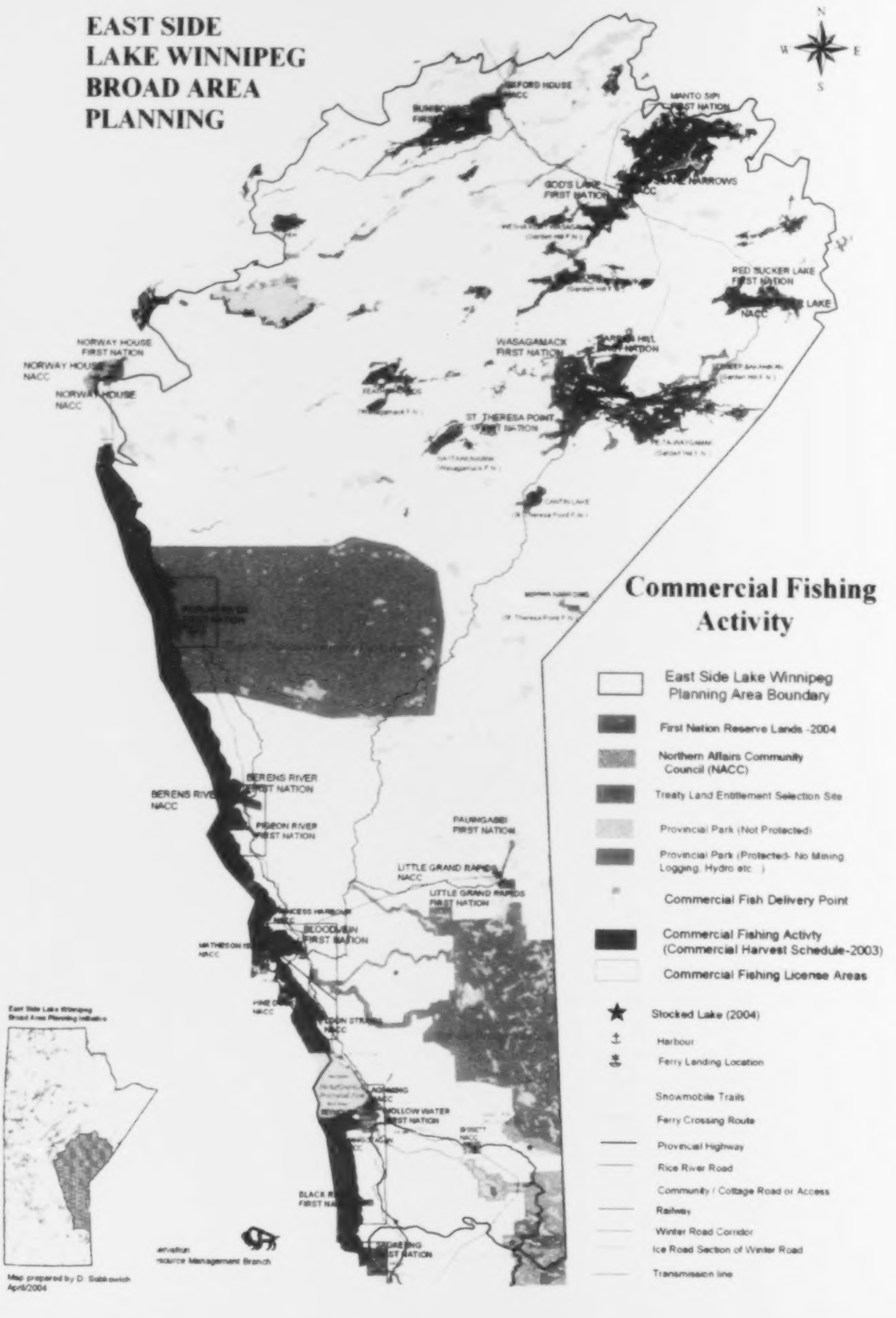
EAST SIDE LAKE WINNIPEG PLANNING AREA

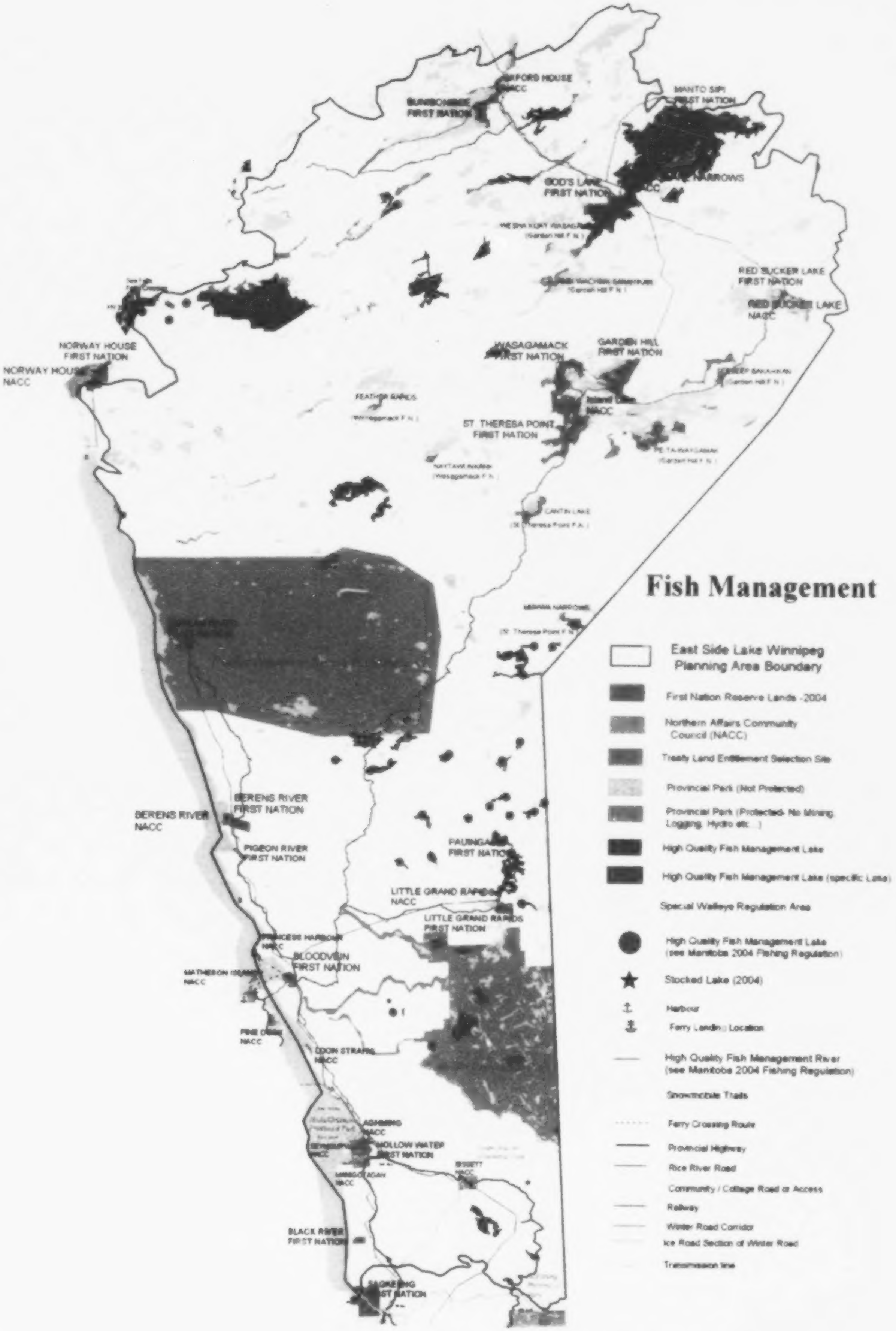
Mining Activity


Oxford House
Bunibonibee F.N.
Gods Lake F.N.
Gods Lake Narrows
Garden Hill F.N.
Red Sucker Lake F.N.
Red Sucker Lake
Garden Hill F.N.
Wasagamack F.N.
Island Lake
Norway House F.N.
St Theresa Point F.N.
Poplar River F.N.
Poplar/Nanowin Rivers Park Reserve
Berens River F.N.
Berens River
Pauingassi F.N.
Little Grand Rapids
Little Grand Rapids F.N.
Princess Harbour
Bloodvein F.N.
Loon Straits
Atikaki Provincial Park
Bissett
Black River F.N.
Sagkeeng F.N.
East Side Planning Area Boundary
Mine Status
Operational
Non Operational
Mining Activity
Quarry Lease
Mineral Lease
Mining Claim
Exploration Permit
Parks & Natural Areas
Provincial Park / Provincial Park Reserve
Resource Management Area
First Nation Interests
Northern Affairs Community
First Nation Reserve Land
Treaty Land Entitlement Selection
Northern Flood Agreement
Transportation & Hydro Interests
Provincial Highway
Other Road
Transmission Line Corridor
Winter Road Corridor
Railway
Airport
Waterbody
Lake
River
Manitoba Conservation
June/03
DB

EAST SIDE LAKE WINNIPEG BROAD AREA PLANNING

Commercial Fishing Activity

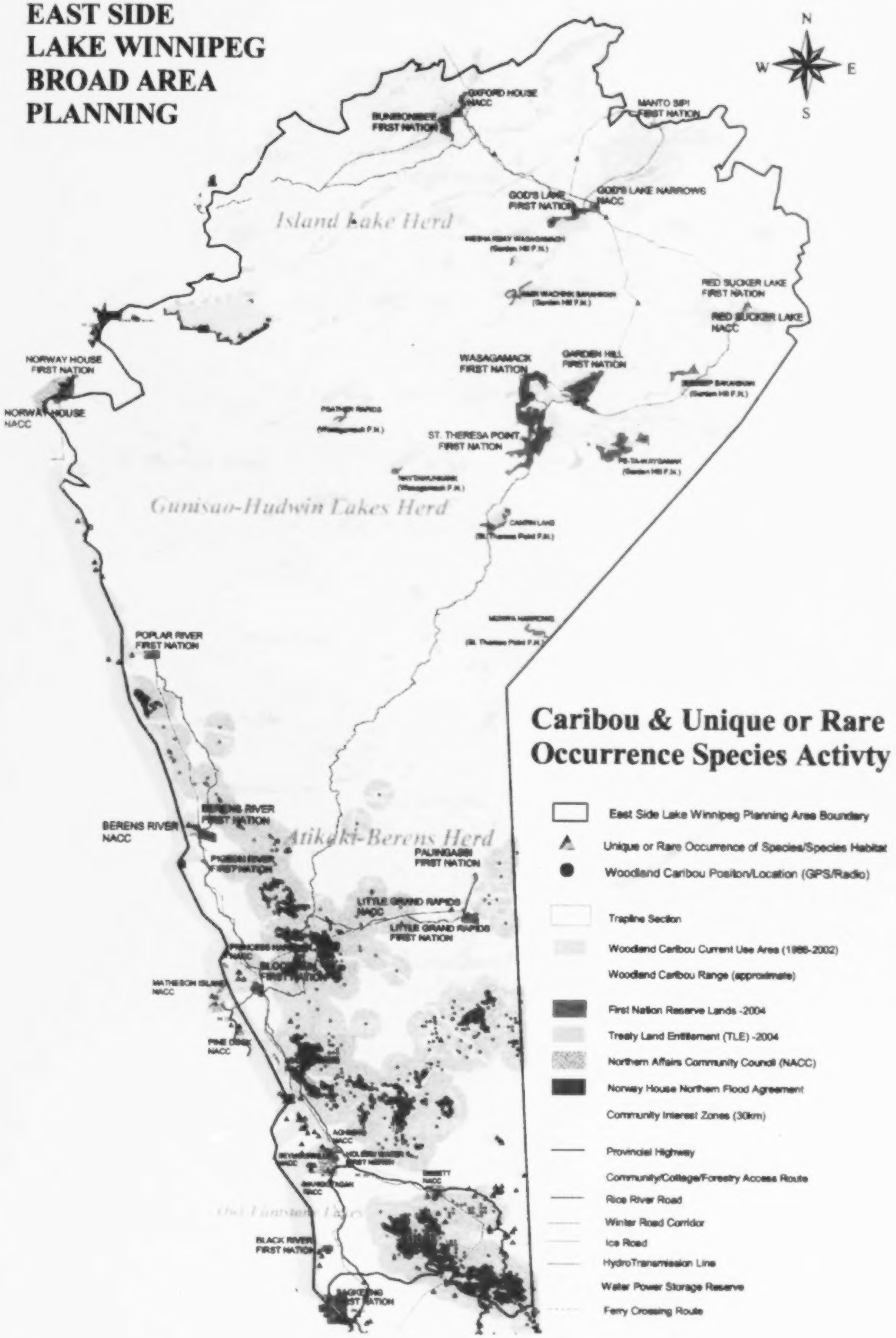

N
W
E
S
OXFORD HOUSE NACC
BUNIBONIBEE FIRST NATION
MANTO SIPI FIRST NATION
GOD'S LAKE FIRST NATION
GOD'S LAKE NARROWS NACC
RED SUCKER LAKE FIRST NATION
RED SUCKER LAKE NACC
NORWAY HOUSE FIRST NATION
NORWAY HOUSE NACC
NORWAY HOUSE NACC
WASAGAMACK FIRST NATION
GARDEN HILL FIRST NATION
ST. THERESA POINT FIRST NATION
CANTIN LAKE
BERENS RIVER FIRST NATION
BERENS RIVER NACC
PIGEON RIVER FIRST NATION
PAUINGASSI FIRST NATION
LITTLE GRAND RAPIDS NACC
LITTLE GRAND RAPIDS FIRST NATION
PRINCESS HARBOUR NACC
BLOODVEIN FIRST NATION
MATHESON ISLAND NACC
PINE DOCK NACC
LOON STRAITS NACC
HOLLOW WATER FIRST NATION
BISSETT NACC
BLACK RIVER FIRST NATION
SAGKEENG FIRST NATION
East Side Lake Winnipeg Broad Area Planning Initiative
Map prepared by D. Sobkowich
April/2004
Conservation
Resource Management Branch
East Side Lake Winnipeg Planning Area Boundary
First Nation Reserve Lands -2004
Northern Affairs Community Council (NACC)
Treaty Land Entitlement Selection Site
Provincial Park (Not Protected)
Provincial Park (Protected- No Mining Logging, Hydro etc...)
Commercial Fish Delivery Point
Commercial Fishing Activty (Commercial Harvest Schedule-2003)
Commercial Fishing License Areas
Stocked Lake (2004)
Harbour
Ferry Landing Location
Snowmobile Trails
Ferry Crossing Route
Provincial Highway
Rice River Road
Community / Cottage Road or Access
Railway
Winter Road Corridor
Ice Road Section of Winter Road
Transmission line



Fish Management

East Side Lake Winnipeg Planning Area Boundary
First Nation Reserve Lands -2004
Northern Affairs Community Council (NACC)
Treaty Land Entitlement Selection Site
Provincial Park (Not Protected)
Provincial Park (Protected- No Mining, Logging, Hydro etc...)
High Quality Fish Management Lake
High Quality Fish Management Lake (specific Lake)
Special Walleye Regulation Area
High Quality Fish Management Lake (see Manitoba 2004 Fishing Regulation)
Stocked Lake (2004)
Harbour
Ferry Landing Location
High Quality Fish Management River (see Manitoba 2004 Fishing Regulation)
Snowmobile Trails
Ferry Crossing Route
Provincial Highway
Rice River Road
Community / Cottage Road or Access
Railway
Winter Road Corridor
Ice Road Section of Winter Road
Transmission line
OXFORD HOUSE NACC
BUNIBONIBEE FIRST NATION
MANTO SIPI FIRST NATION
GOD'S LAKE FIRST NATION
GOD'S LAKE NARROWS NACC
RED SUCKER LAKE FIRST NATION
RED SUCKER LAKE NACC
NORWAY HOUSE FIRST NATION
NORWAY HOUSE NACC
WASAGAMACK FIRST NATION
GARDEN HILL FIRST NATION
ISLAND LAKE NACC
FEATHER RAPIDS
(Wasagamack F.N.)
ST. THERESA POINT FIRST NATION
(Garden Hill F.N.)
CANTIN LAKE
(St. Theresa Point F.N.)
(St. Theresa Point F.N.)
BERENS RIVER NACC
BERENS RIVER FIRST NATION
PIGEON RIVER FIRST NATION
PAUINGASSI FIRST NATION
LITTLE GRAND RAPIDS NACC
LITTLE GRAND RAPIDS FIRST NATION
PRINCESS HARBOUR NACC
BLOODVEIN FIRST NATION
MATHESON ISLAND NACC
PINE DOCK NACC
LOON STRAITS NACC
AGHMING NACC
HOLLOW WATER FIRST NATION
MANIGOTAGAN NACC
BISSETT NACC
BLACK RIVER FIRST NATION
SAGKEENG FIRST NATION

EAST SIDE LAKE WINNIPEG BROAD AREA PLANNING

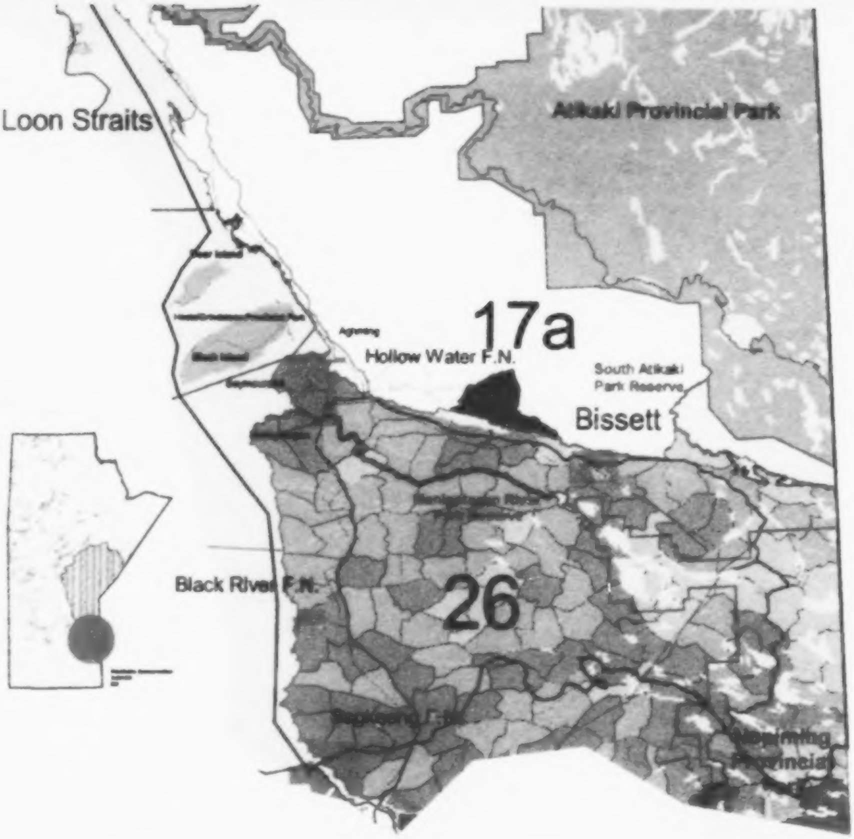

N
W
E
S
OXFORD HOUSE NACC
BUNIBONIBEE FIRST NATION
MANTO SIPI FIRST NATION
GOD'S LAKE FIRST NATION
GOD'S LAKE NARROWS NACC
Island Lake Herd
RED SUCKER LAKE FIRST NATION
RED SUCKER LAKE NACC
NORWAY HOUSE FIRST NATION
NORWAY HOUSE NACC
WASAGAMACK FIRST NATION
GARDEN HILL FIRST NATION
ST. THERESA POINT FIRST NATION
Gunisao-Hudwin Lakes Herd
POPLAR RIVER FIRST NATION
BERENS RIVER FIRST NATION
BERENS RIVER NACC
Atikaki-Berens Herd
PAUINGASSI FIRST NATION
PIGEON RIVER FIRST NATION
LITTLE GRAND RAPIDS NACC
LITTLE GRAND RAPIDS FIRST NATION
PRINCESS HARBOUR NACC
BLOODVEIN FIRST NATION
MATHESON ISLAND NACC
PINE DOCK NACC
AGHIMING NACC
SEYMOURVILLE NACC
HOLLOW WATER FIRST NATION
MANIGOTAGAN NACC
BISSETT NACC
Owl Lake/Flintstone Lakes
BLACK RIVER FIRST NATION
SAGKEENG FIRST NATION

Caribou & Unique or Rare Occurrence Species Activty

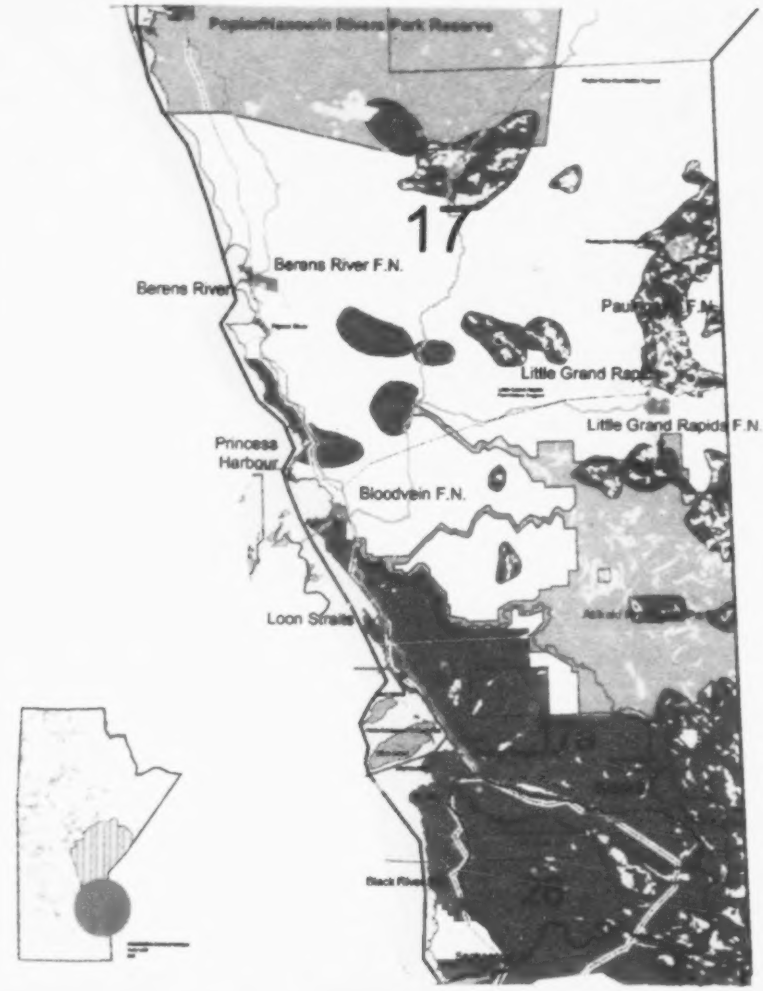
East Side Lake Winnipeg Planning Area Boundary
▲ Unique or Rare Occurrence of Species/Species Habitat
● Woodland Caribou Position/Location (GPS/Radio)
Trapline Section
Woodland Caribou Current Use Area (1986-2002)
Woodland Caribou Range (approximate)
First Nation Reserve Lands -2004
Treaty Land Entitlement (TLE) -2004
Northern Affairs Community Council (NACC)
Norway House Northern Flood Agreement
Community Interest Zones (30km)
Provincial Highway
Community/Cottage/Forestry Access Route
Rice River Road
Winter Road Corridor
Ice Road
HydroTransmission Line
Water Power Storage Reserve
Ferry Crossing Route

EAST SIDE LAKE WINNIPEG PLANNING AREA

Moose Management

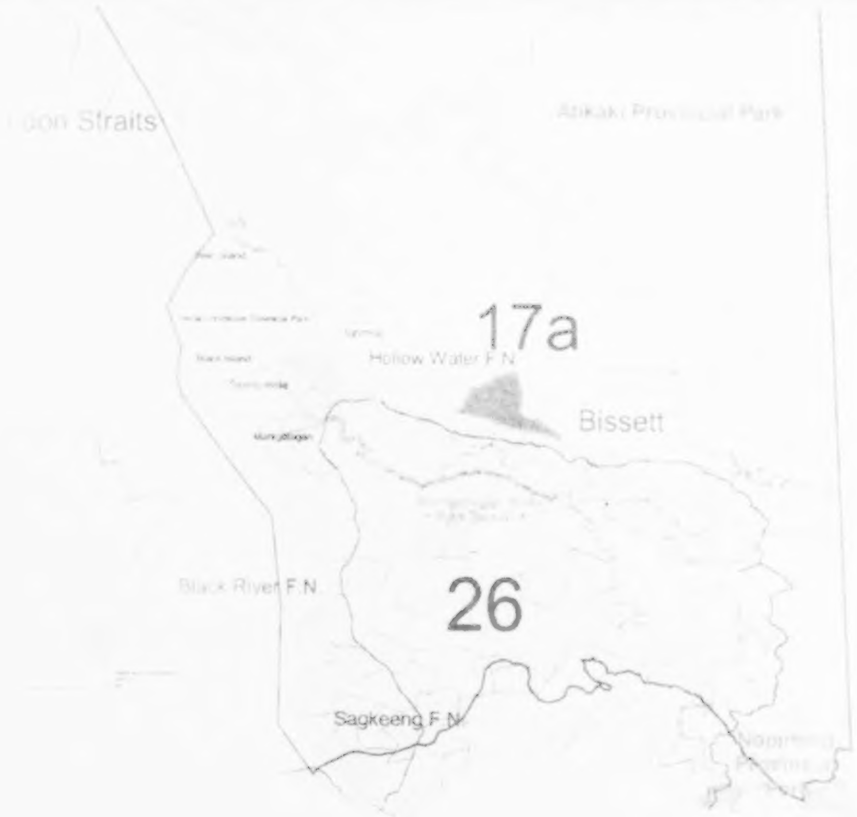

Loon Straits
Atikaki Provincial Park
17a
Aghming
Hollow Water F.N.
South Atikaki
Park Reserve
Bissett
Black River F.N.
26
Sagkeeng F.N.
East Side Planning Area Boundary
Game Hunting Areas: 17A & 26
Moose Study Area 2000
Moose Density Survey 2000
Extra Low
High
Low
Medium
Northern Affairs Community
First Nation Reserve Land
Community Interest Zone
Provincial Parks and Park Reserves
Not Protected
Protected
Waterbody
Lake
Rivers
Provincial Highway
Other Road
Winter Road
Railway
Transmission Line

Bear and Deer Outfitter Activity


Poplar/Nanowin Rivers Park Reserve
17
Berens River F.N.
Berens River
Pauingassi F.N.
Little Grand Rapids
Little Grand Rapids F.N.
Princess
Harbour
Bloodvein F.N.
Loon Straits
Atikaki Provincial Park
17a
Black River
26
East Side Planning Area Boundary
Deer outfitters (non-resident).shp
Bear Outfitting Activity
Northern Affairs Community
First Nation Reserve Land
Community Interest Zone
Provincial Parks and Park Reserves
Not Protected
Protected
Waterbody
Lake
Rivers
Provincial Highway
Other Road
Winter Road
Railway
Transmission Line

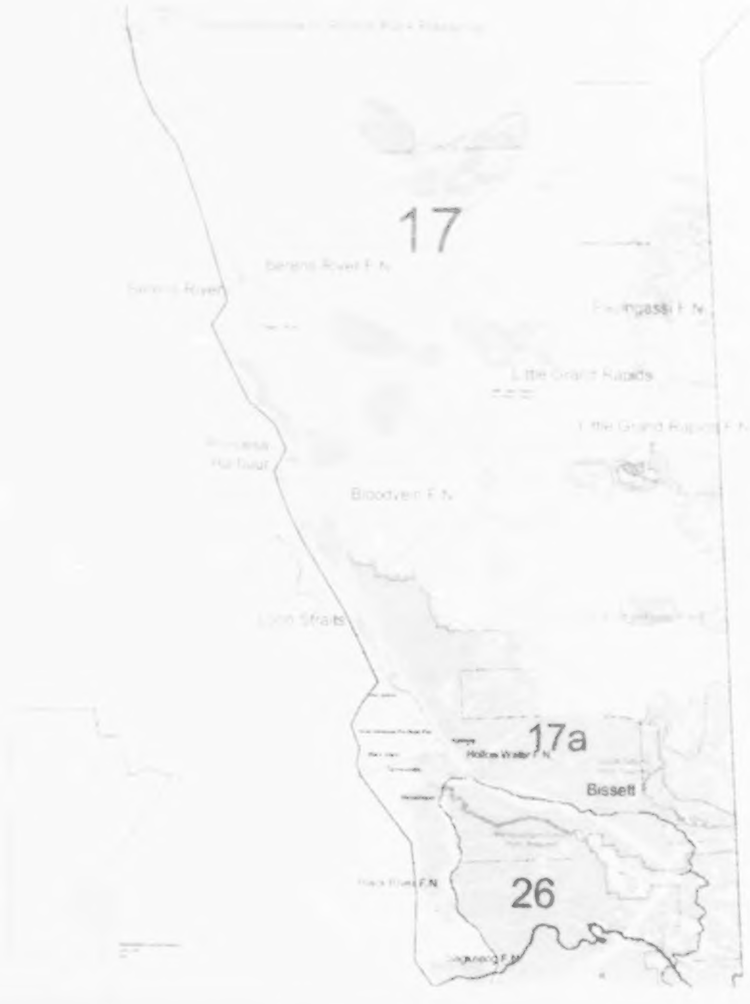
EAST SIDE
LAKE WINNIPEG
PLANNING
AREA

Moose Management



Loon Straits
Atikaki Provincial Park
17a
Hollow Water F.N.
Bissett
26
Black River F.N.
Sagkeeng F.N.
Nopiming Provincial Park

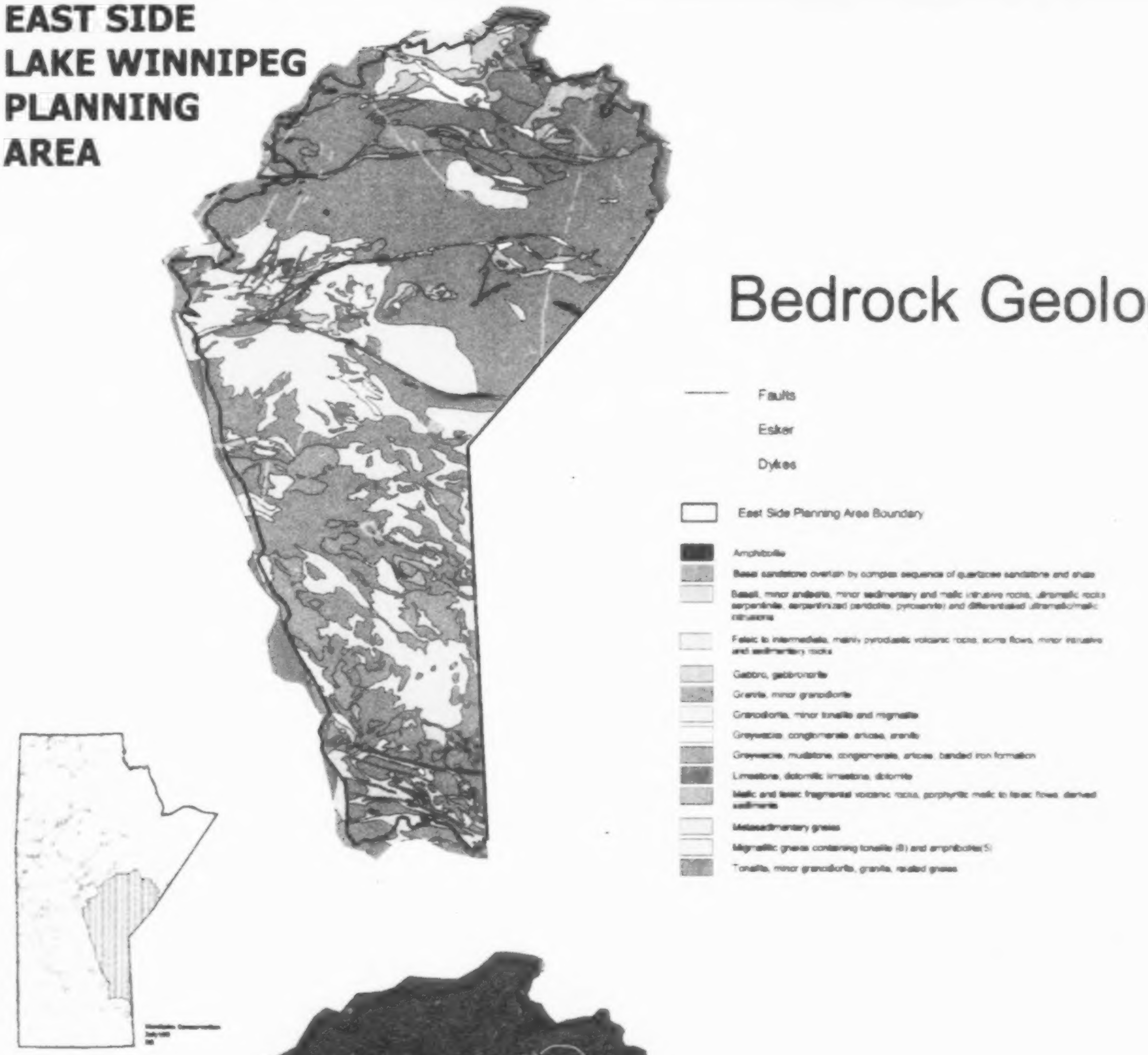
Bear and Deer Outfitter Activity



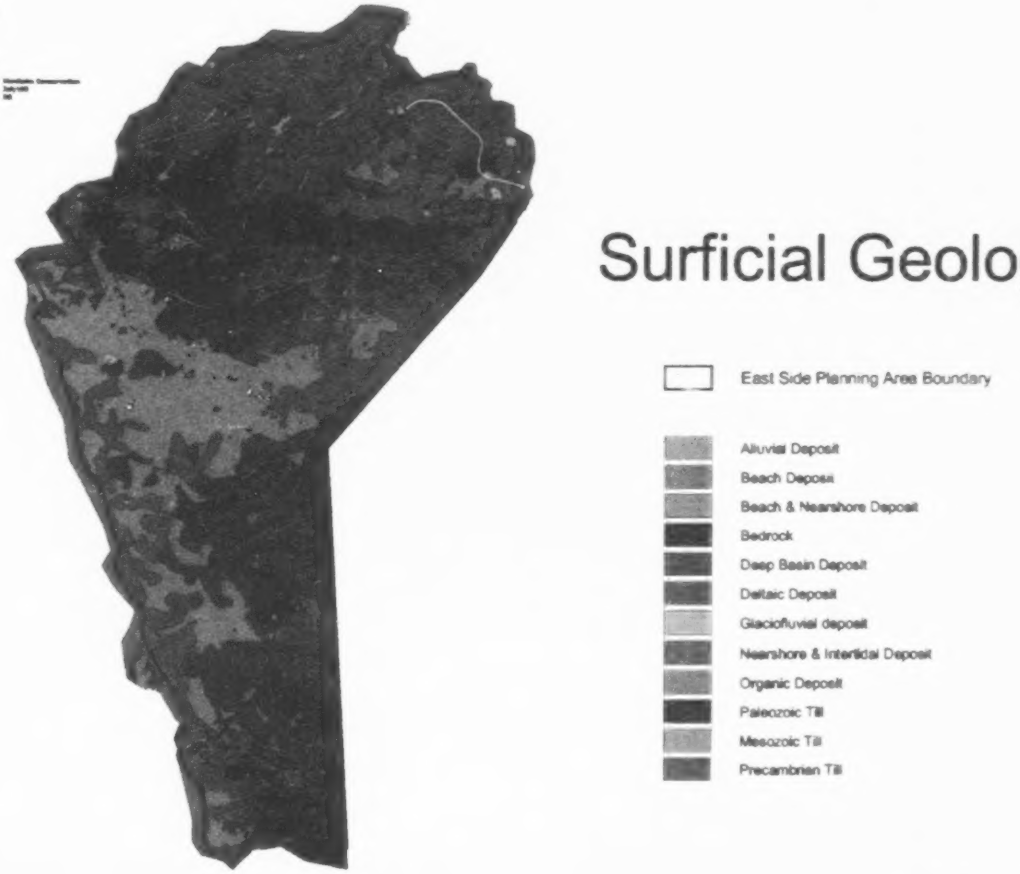
17
Berens River F.N.
Berens River
Pauingassi F.N.
Little Grand Rapids
Little Grand Rapids F.N.
Princess Harbour
Bloodvein F.N.
Loon Straits
17a
Hollow Water F.N.
Bissett
Black River F.N.
26
Sagkeeng F.N.

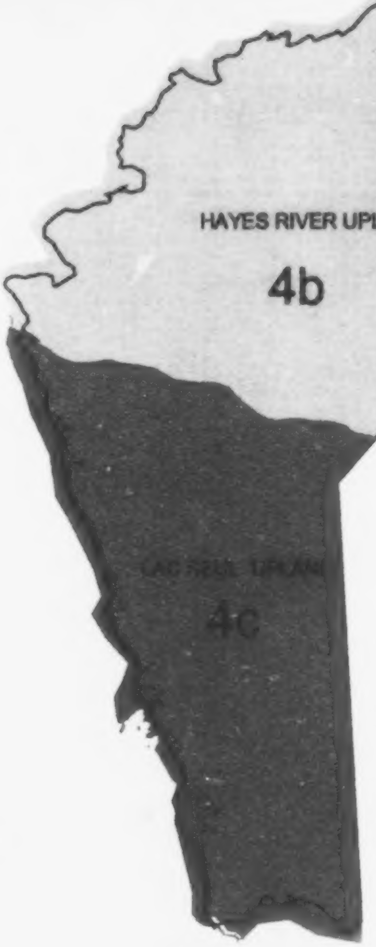
EAST SIDE
LAKE WINNIPEG
PLANNING
AREA

Bedrock Geology


Faults
Esker
Dykes
East Side Planning Area Boundary
Amphibolite
Basal sandstone overlain by complex sequence of quartzose sandstone and shale
Basalt, minor andesite, minor sedimentary and mafic intrusive rocks; ultramafic rocks serpentinite, serpentinized peridotite, pyroxenite) and differentiated ultramafic/mafic intrusions
Felsic to intermediate, mainly pyroclastic volcanic rocks, some flows, minor intrusive and sedimentary rocks
Gabbro, gabbronorite
Granite, minor granodiorite
Granodiorite, minor tonalite and migmatite
Greywacke, conglomerate, arkose, arenite
Greywacke, mudstone, conglomerate, arkose, banded iron formation
Limestone, dolomitic limestone, dolomite
Mafic and felsic fragmental volcanic rocks, porphyritic mafic to felsic flows, derived sediments
Metasedimentary gneiss
Migmatitic gneiss containing tonalite (8) and amphibolite(5)
Tonalite, minor granodiorite, granite, related gneiss

Surficial Geology


East Side Planning Area Boundary
Alluvial Deposit
Beach Deposit
Beach & Nearshore Deposit
Bedrock
Deep Basin Deposit
Deltaic Deposit
Glaciofluvial deposit
Nearshore & Intertidal Deposit
Organic Deposit
Paleozoic Till
Mesozoic Till
Precambrian Till


HAYES RIVER UPLAND
4b
LAC SEUL UPLAND
4c

THE BOREAL FOREST
OF CANADA
The Boreal Forest
Lakes

NATURAL REGIONS

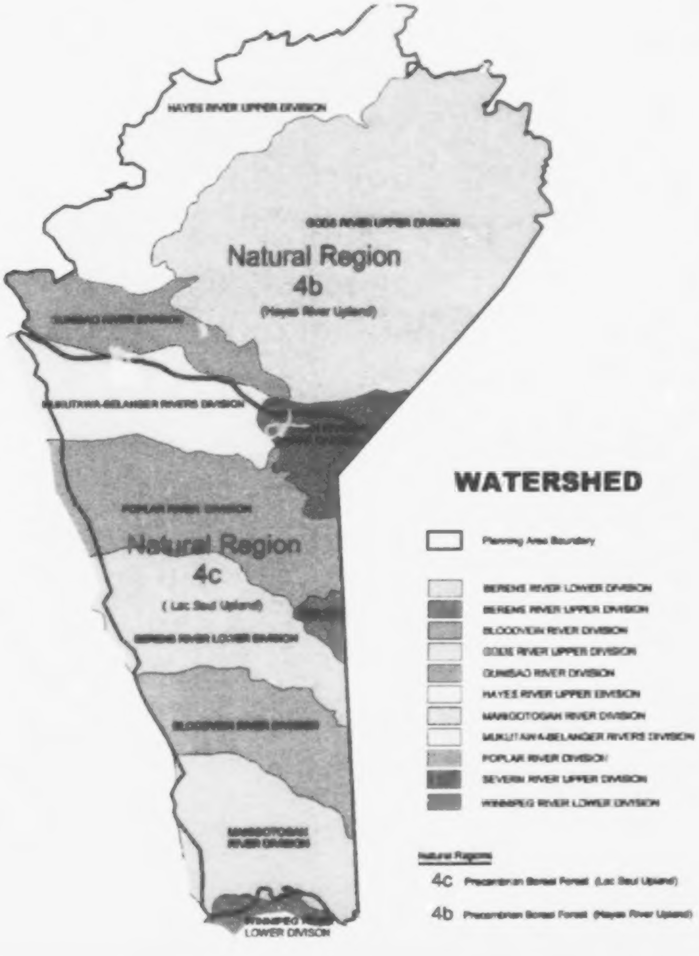
4b Precambrian Boreal Forest
Hayes River Upland

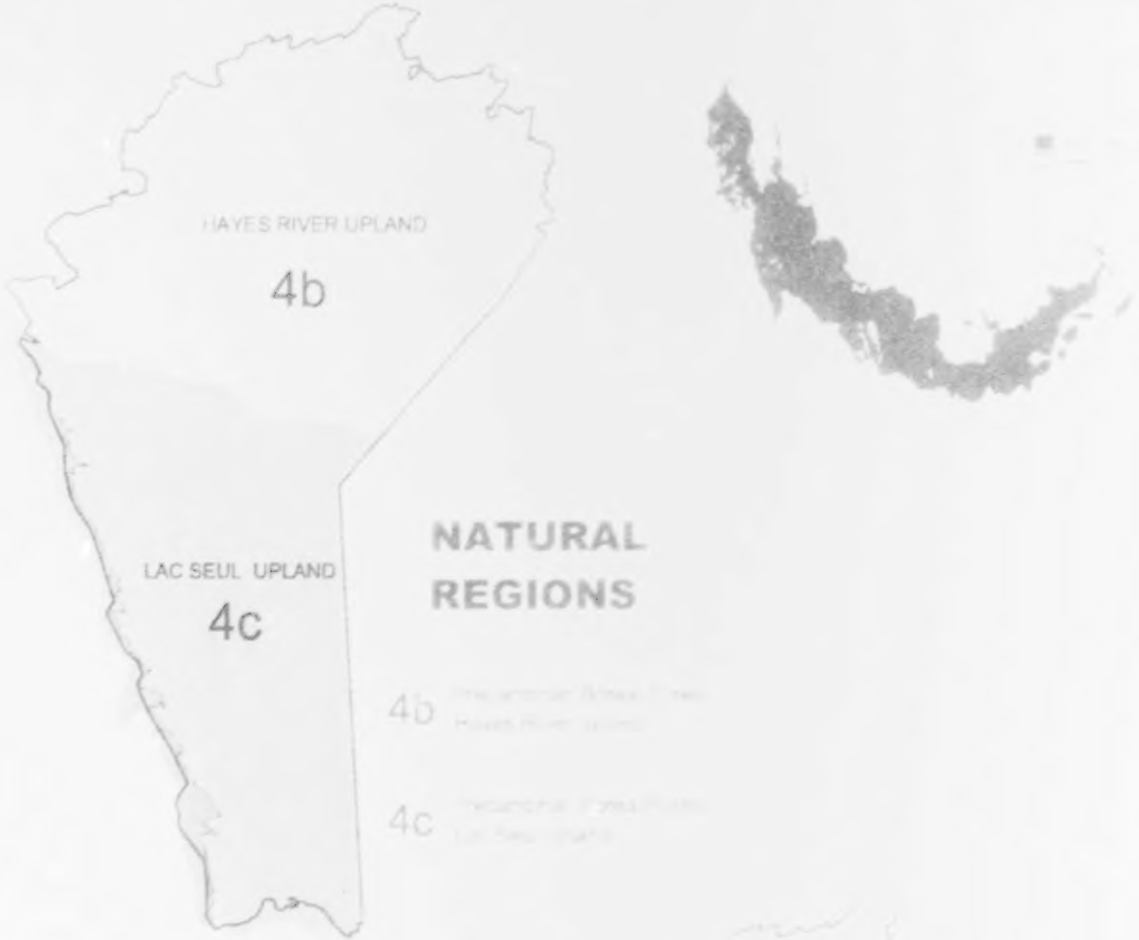
4c Precambrian Boreal Forest
Lac Seul Upland

East Side Lake Winnipeg Planning Area

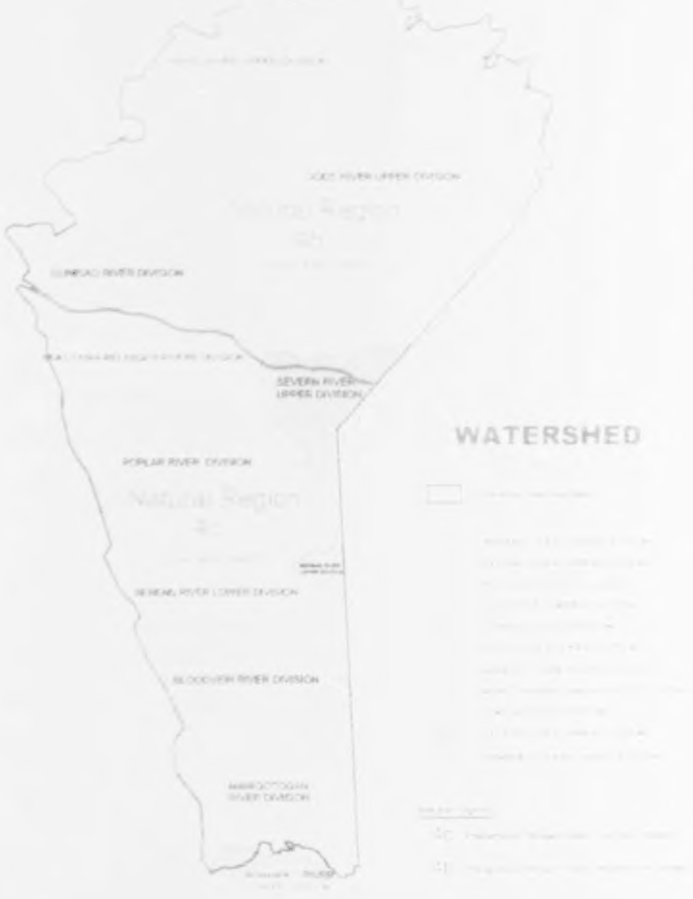
Manitoba Conservation
April/00

WATERSHED


HAYES RIVER UPPER DIVISION
GODS RIVER UPPER DIVISION
Natural Region
4b
(Hayes River Upland)
GUNISAO RIVER DIVISION
MUKUTAWA-BELANGER RIVERS DIVISION
POPLAR RIVER DIVISION
Natural Region
4c
(Lac Seul Upland)
BERENS RIVER LOWER DIVISION
BLOODVEIN RIVER DIVISION
MANIGOTOGAN RIVER DIVISION
WINNIPEG RIVER LOWER DIVISON
Planning Area Boundary
BERENS RIVER LOWER DIVISION
BERENS RIVER UPPER DIVISION
BLOODVEIN RIVER DIVISION
GODS RIVER UPPER DIVISION
GUNISAO RIVER DIVISION
HAYES RIVER UPPER DIVISION
MANIGOTOGAN RIVER DIVISION
MUKUTAWA-BELANGER RIVERS DIVISION
POPLAR RIVER DIVISION
SEVERN RIVER UPPER DIVISION
WINNIPEG RIVER LOWER DIVISION
Natural Regions
4c Precambrian Boreal Forest (Lac Seul Upland)
4b Precambrian Boreal Forest (Hayes River Upland)

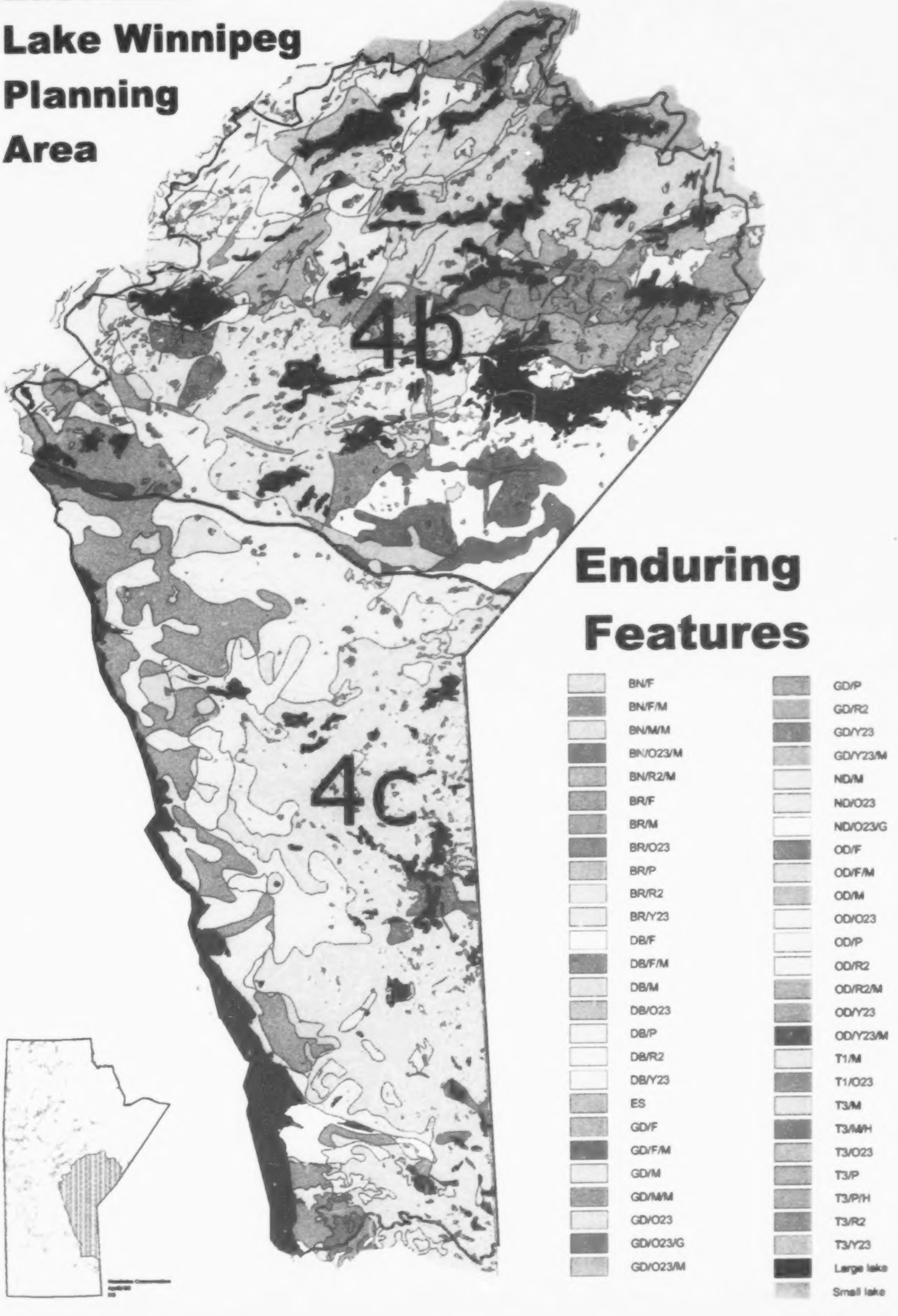

HAYES RIVER UPLAND
4b
LAC SEUL UPLAND
4c
NATURAL REGIONS
4b
4c

East Side Lake Winnipeg Planning Area


GODS RIVER UPPER DIVISION
Natural Region
4b
GUNISAO RIVER DIVISION
SEVERN RIVER UPPER DIVISION
POPLAR RIVER DIVISION
Natural Region
4c
BERENS RIVER LOWER DIVISION
BLOODVEIN RIVER DIVISION
MANIGOTOGAN RIVER DIVISION
WATERSHED
4c
4b

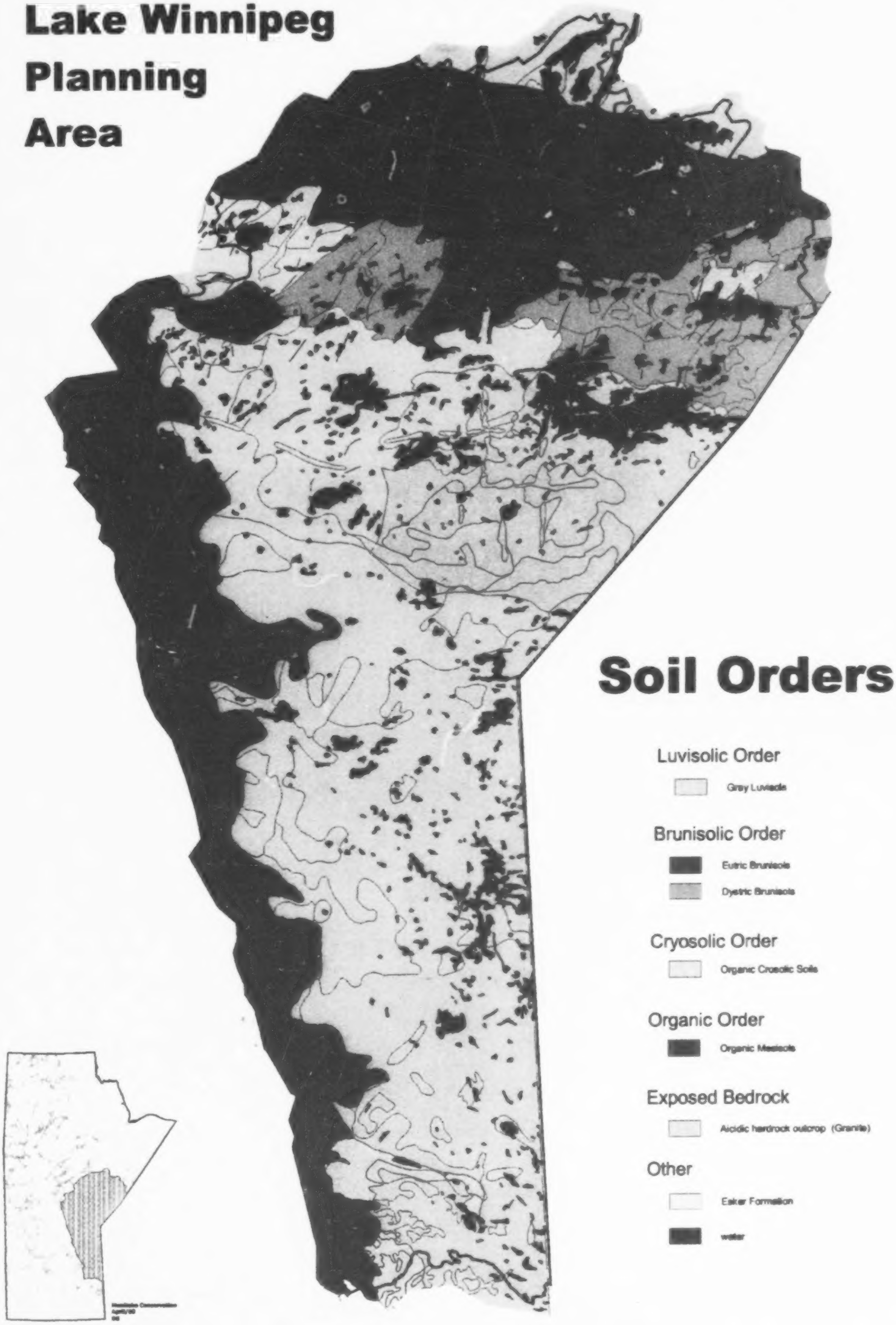
East Side Lake Winnipeg Planning Area

Enduring Features


4b
4c
BN/F
BN/F/M
BN/M/M
BN/O23/M
BN/R2/M
BR/F
BR/M
BR/O23
BR/P
BR/R2
BR/Y23
DB/F
DB/F/M
DB/M
DB/O23
DB/P
DB/R2
DB/Y23
ES
GD/F
GD/F/M
GD/M
GD/M/M
GD/O23
GD/O23/G
GD/O23/M
GD/P
GD/R2
GD/Y23
GD/Y23/M
ND/M
ND/O23
ND/O23/G
OD/F
OD/F/M
OD/M
OD/O23
OD/P
OD/R2
OD/R2/M
OD/Y23
OD/Y23/M
T1/M
T1/O23
T3/M
T3/M/H
T3/O23
T3/P
T3/P/H
T3/R2
T3/Y23
Large lake
Small lake

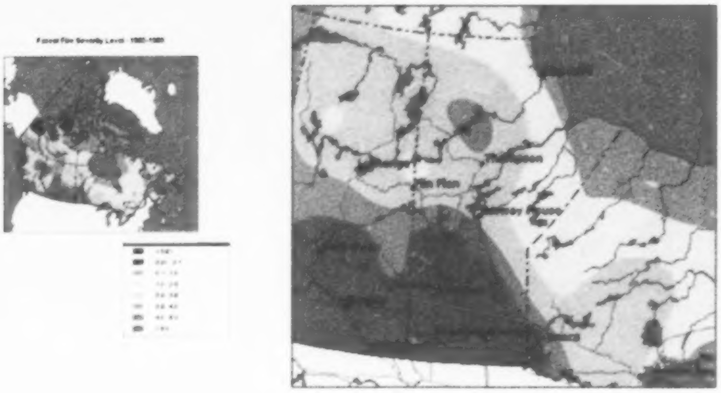
East Side Lake Winnipeg Planning Area

Soil Orders


Luvisolic Order
▭ Gray Luvisols
Brunisolic Order
■ Eutric Brunisols
▨ Dystric Brunisols
Cryosolic Order
▭ Organic Cryosolic Soils
Organic Order
■ Organic Mesisols
Exposed Bedrock
▭ Acidic hardrock outcrop (Granite)
Other
▭ Esker Formation
■ water

Anticipated Effects of Climate Change on Forest Fire Severity: 2x & 3x C02

Forest Fire Severity Level - 1980-1989

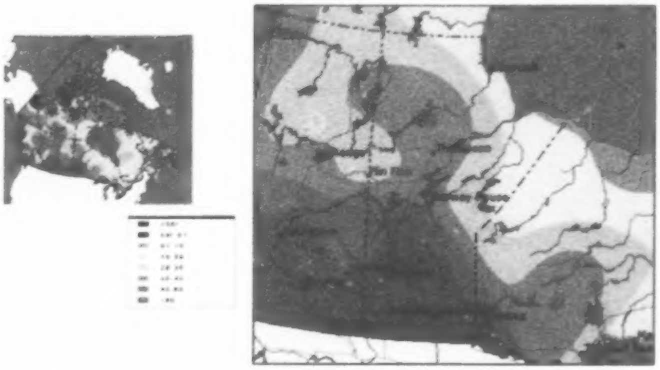


SEASONAL SEVERITY INDEX

▨	< 0.01
▨	0.01 - 0.1
▨	0.1 - 1.0
▨	1.0 - 2.0
▨	2.0 - 3.0
▨	3.0 - 4.0
▨	4.0 - 6.0
▨	> 6.0

The Seasonal Severity Rating (SSR) is a measure of fire danger conditions over a complete fire season. The SSR is developed by averaging daily values over the season. The scale shown is relative with values above 6 being extreme. A real value of zero is only possible in remote cold regions where no fire danger exists in the summer months.

Projected Forest Fire Severity Level - 2050-2059



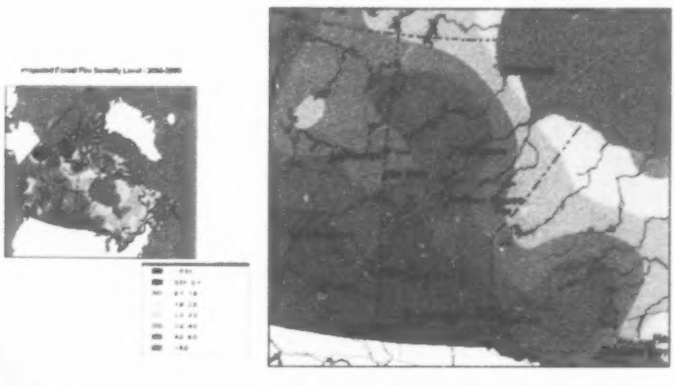
Projected climate changes are expected to have major impacts on the severity of Canada's forest fires. Research activities are being conducted in the Canadian Forest Service, to project how the seasonal severity of forest fires may respond to a changing climate.

Three map layers have been produced to show the seasonal severity ratings with the reference level of atmospheric CO2 concentration (1980-1989), with a doubling of atmospheric CO2 concentration (mid century: 2050-2059), and with a tripling of atmospheric Co2 concentrations (end of century: 2090-2099).

These map layers were created based on a climate change scenario projection using the Canadian Coupled Global Circulation Model 2 (CGCM2), and solid relationships between climate, weather, and the major drivers of fire activity.

The climate change scenario was provided by the Canadian Center for Climate Modeling and Analysis of Environment Canada.

Projected Forest Fire Severity Level - 2090-2099



Data Source:

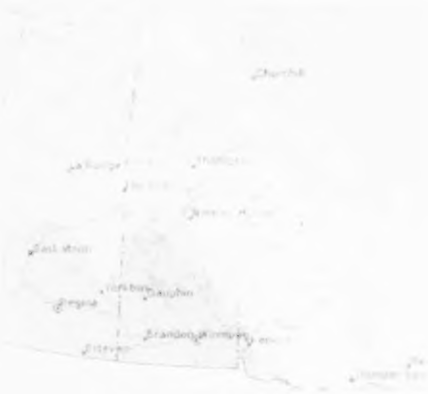
Canada

The Atlas of Canada

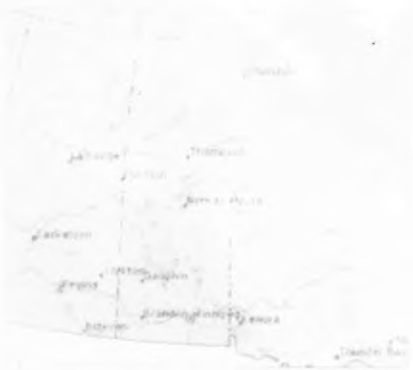
Poster layout compiled
by Dale Sobkowich, Secretariat,
East Side Lake Winnipeg Broad
Area Planning Initiative

Anticipated Effects of Climate Change on Forest Fire Severity: 2x & 3x C02

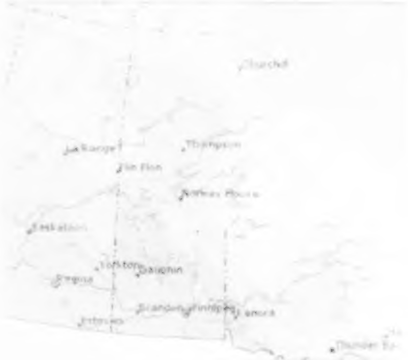
Forest Fire Severity Level: [illegible]


Churchill
La Ronge
Thompson
Flin Flon
Norway House
Saskatoon
Yorkton
Dauphin
Regina
Brandon
Winnipeg
Kenora
Estevan
Thunder Bay

Projected Forest Fire Severity Level: [illegible]


Churchill
La Ronge
Thompson
Flin Flon
Norway House
Saskatoon
Yorkton
Dauphin
Regina
Brandon
Winnipeg
Kenora
Estevan
Thunder Bay

Projected Forest Fire Severity Level: [illegible]

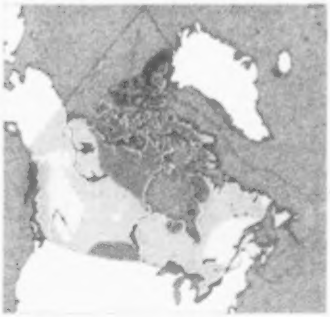

Churchill
La Ronge
Thompson
Flin Flon
Norway House
Saskatoon
Yorkton
Dauphin
Regina
Brandon
Winnipeg
Kenora
Estevan
Thunder Bay

[illegible]

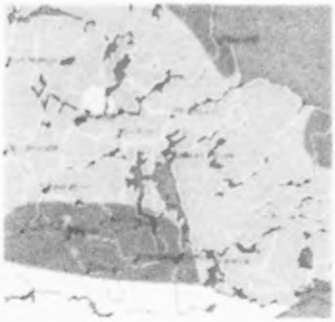
Anticipated Effects of Climate Change on Temperature & Precipitation: (2X C02)

Temperature Changes

National Annual Temperature Scenario: 2050



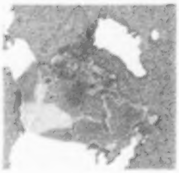
Manitoba Annual Temperature Scenario: 2050



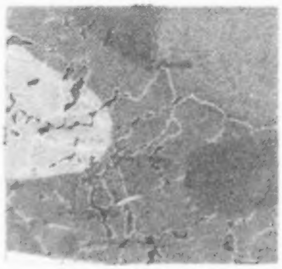
Projected Mean Annual Temperature Change from 1961-1990 to 2040-2069 (degrees C)

Based on a simulation output from the latest Canadian Global Circulation Model: the Coupled Global Circulation Model 2 (CGCM2), developed by the Canadian Centre for Climate Modelling and Analysis of Environment Canada.

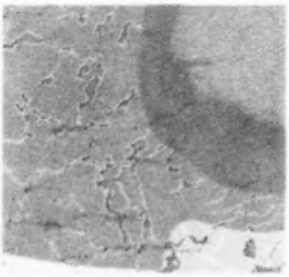
The map above shows projected differences in annual mean temperature for the period 2040-2069 compared to the reference period of 1961-1990.

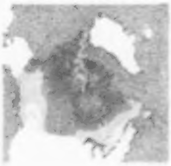


National Summer Temperature Scenario: 2050



National Winter Temperature Scenario: 2050





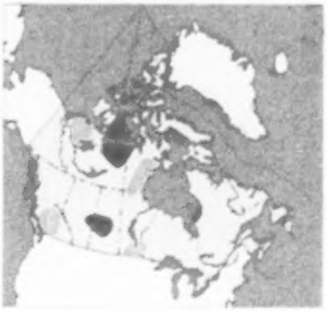
Precipitation Changes

Projected Change in Mean Annual Precipitation from 1961-1990 to 2040-2069 (%)

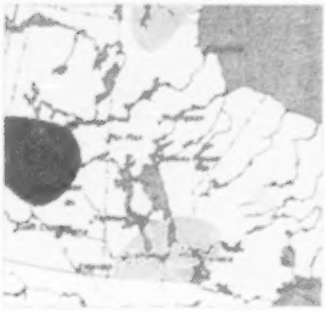
Based on a simulation output from the latest Canadian Global Circulation Model: the Coupled Global Circulation Model 2 (CGCM2), developed by the Canadian Centre for Climate Modelling and Analysis of Environment Canada.

The map above shows projected differences in annual mean precipitation for the period 2040-2069 compared to the reference period of 1961-1990.

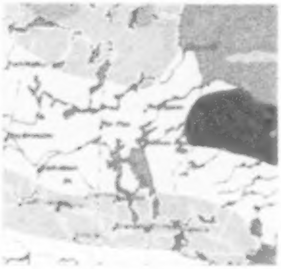
National Annual Precipitation Scenario: 2050



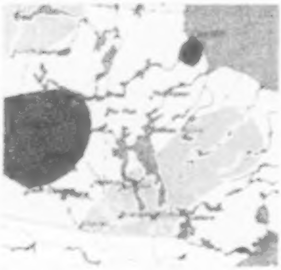
Manitoba Annual Temperature Scenario: 2050

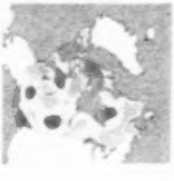


National Summer Precipitation Scenario: 2050

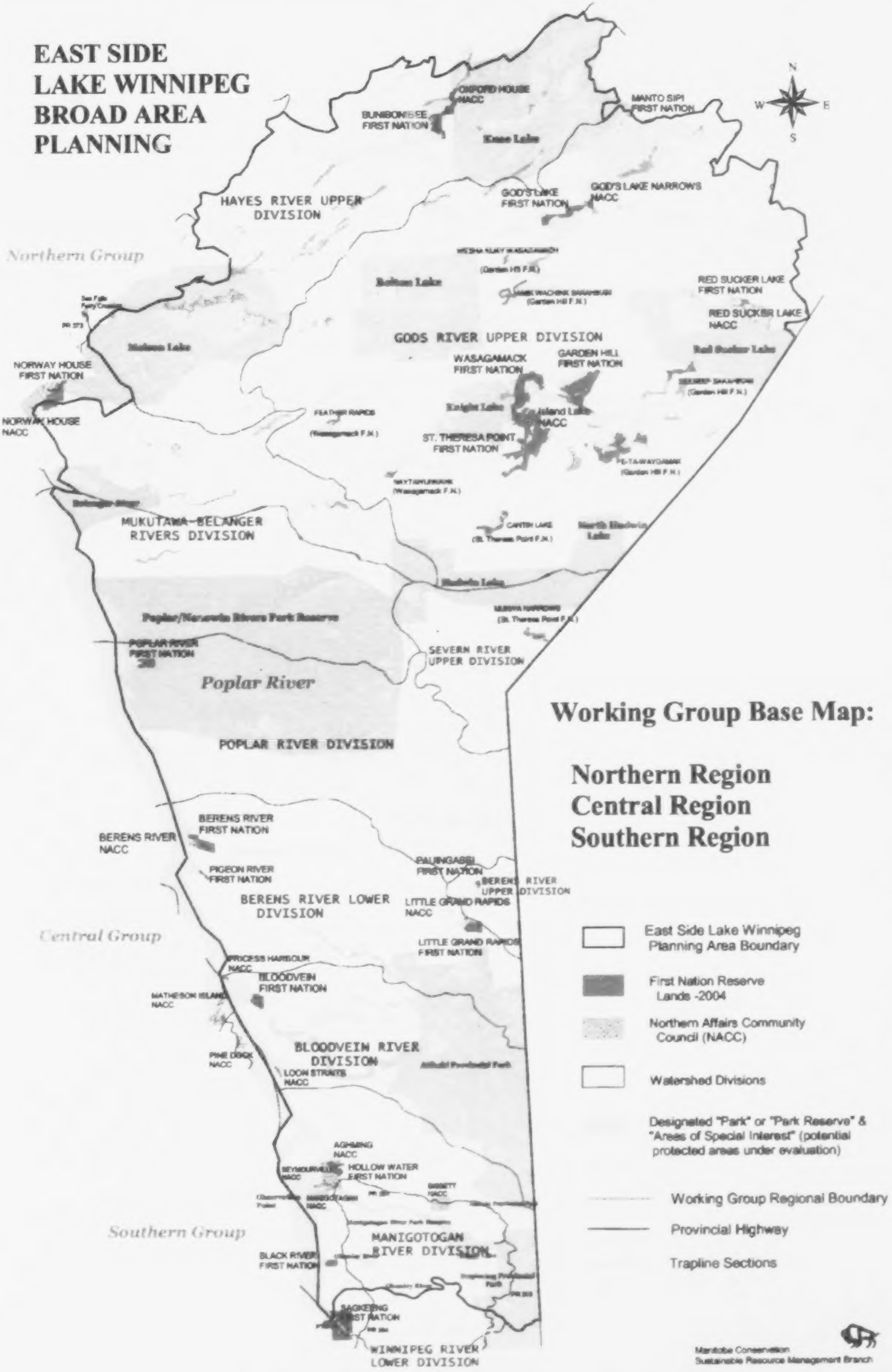


National Winter Precipitation Scenario: 2050





EAST SIDE LAKE WINNIPEG BROAD AREA PLANNING


N
S
W
E
BUNIBONIBEE FIRST NATION
OXFORD HOUSE NACC
Knee Lake
MANTO SIPI FIRST NATION
HAYES RIVER UPPER DIVISION
GOD'S LAKE FIRST NATION
GOD'S LAKE NARROWS NACC
Northern Group
(Garden Hill F.N.)
Bolton Lake
RED SUCKER LAKE FIRST NATION
RED SUCKER LAKE NACC
Red Sucker Lake
PR 373
Molson Lake
GODS RIVER UPPER DIVISION
WASAGAMACK FIRST NATION
GARDEN HILL FIRST NATION
NORWAY HOUSE FIRST NATION
NORWAY HOUSE NACC
FEATHER RAPIDS
(Wasagamack F.N.)
Knight Lake
Island Lake NACC
ST. THERESA POINT FIRST NATION
PE-TA-WAYGAMAK (Garden Hill F.N.)
(Wasagamack F.N.)
MUKUTAWA-BELANGER RIVERS DIVISION
CANTIN LAKE (St. Theresa Point F.N.)
North Hudwin Lake
Hudwin Lake
(St. Theresa Point F.N.)
Poplar/Nanowin Rivers Park Reserve
POPLAR RIVER FIRST NATION
SEVERN RIVER UPPER DIVISION
Poplar River
POPLAR RIVER DIVISION
BERENS RIVER FIRST NATION
BERENS RIVER NACC
PIGEON RIVER FIRST NATION
PAUINGASSI FIRST NATION
BERENS RIVER UPPER DIVISION
BERENS RIVER LOWER DIVISION
LITTLE GRAND RAPIDS NACC
LITTLE GRAND RAPIDS FIRST NATION
Central Group
PRICESS HARBOUR NACC
BLOODVEIN FIRST NATION
MATHESON ISLAND NACC
PINE DOCK NACC
BLOODVEIN RIVER DIVISION
LOON STRAITS NACC
Atikaki Provincial Park
AGHMING NACC
SEYMOURVILLE NACC
HOLLOW WATER FIRST NATION
BISSETT NACC
MANIGOTAGAN NACC
Southern Group
MANIGOTOGAN RIVER DIVISION
BLACK RIVER FIRST NATION
SAGKEENG FIRST NATION
WINNIPEG RIVER LOWER DIVISION
East Side Lake Winnipeg Planning Area Boundary
First Nation Reserve Lands -2004
Northern Affairs Community Council (NACC)
Watershed Divisions
Designated "Park" or "Park Reserve" & "Areas of Special Interest" (potential protected areas under evaluation)
Working Group Regional Boundary
Provincial Highway
Trapline Sections

Working Group Base Map:

Northern Region
Central Region
Southern Region

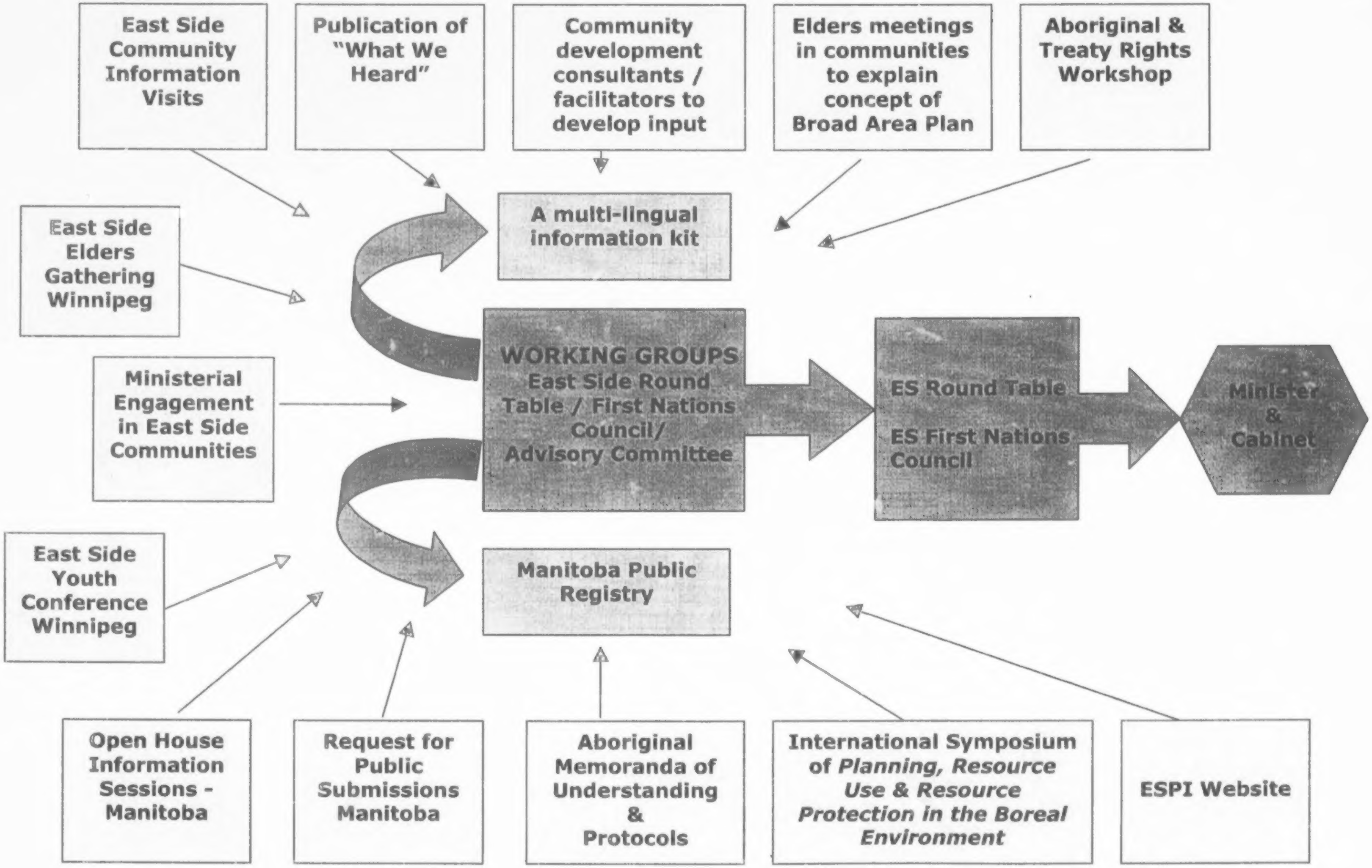
Manitoba Conservation
Sustainable Resource Management Branch

2

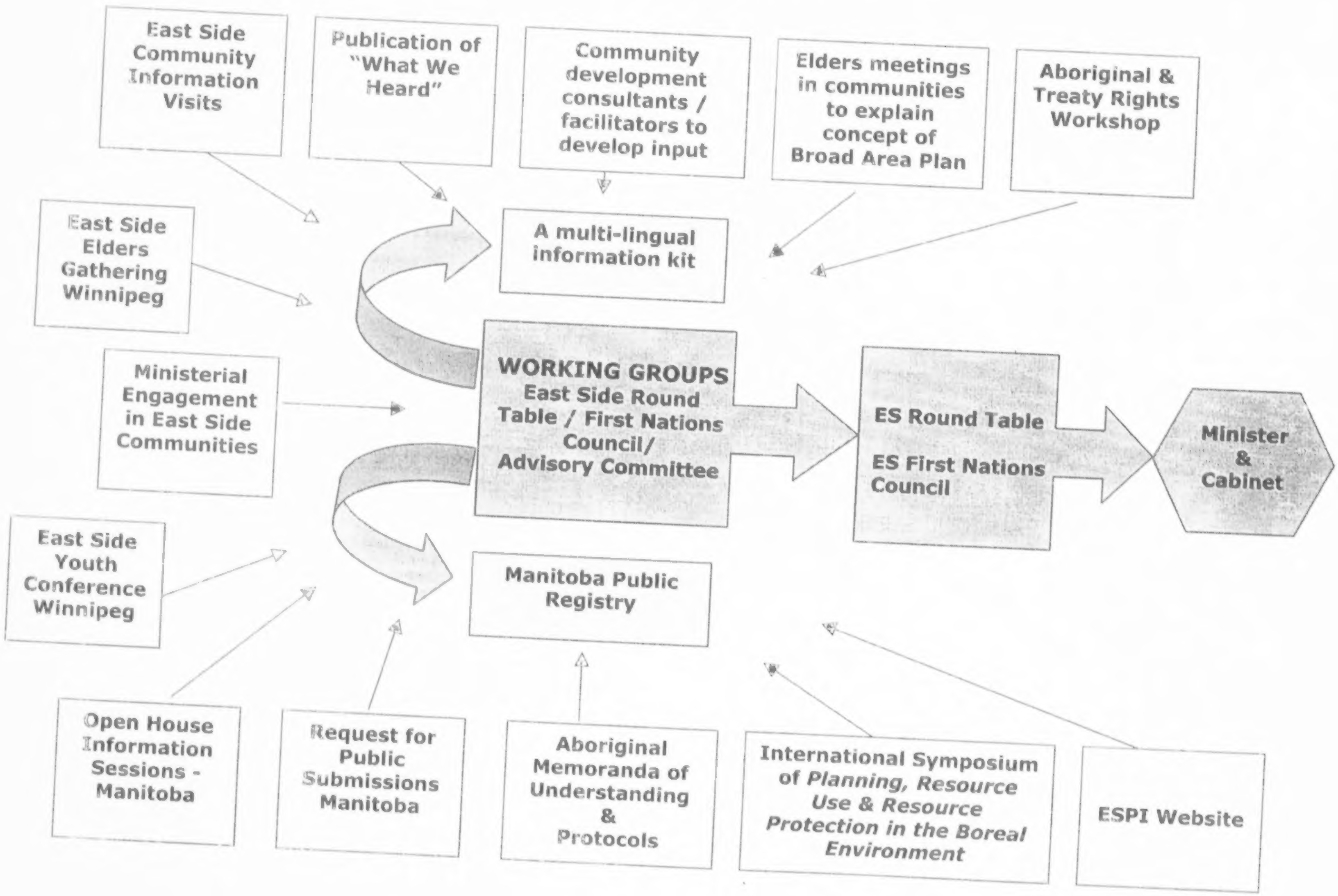
Appendix 8.2

Public Participation Process

Public Participation Process


East Side Community Information Visits
Publication of "What We Heard"
Community development consultants / facilitators to develop input
Elders meetings in communities to explain concept of Broad Area Plan
Aboriginal & Treaty Rights Workshop
East Side Elders Gathering Winnipeg
A multi-lingual information kit
Ministerial Engagement in East Side Communities
WORKING GROUPS East Side Round Table / First Nations Council/ Advisory Committee
ES Round Table
ES First Nations Council
Minister & Cabinet
East Side Youth Conference Winnipeg
Manitoba Public Registry
Open House Information Sessions - Manitoba
Request for Public Submissions Manitoba
Aboriginal Memoranda of Understanding & Protocols
International Symposium of *Planning, Resource Use & Resource Protection in the Boreal Environment*
ESPI Website

Public Participation Process



East Side Community Information Visits

Publication of "What We Heard"

Community development consultants / facilitators to develop input

Elders meetings in communities to explain concept of Broad Area Plan

Aboriginal & Treaty Rights Workshop

East Side Elders Gathering Winnipeg

A multi-lingual information kit

Ministerial Engagement in East Side Communities

WORKING GROUPS
East Side Round Table / First Nations Council/ Advisory Committee

ES Round Table

ES First Nations Council

Minister & Cabinet

East Side Youth Conference Winnipeg

Manitoba Public Registry

Open House Information Sessions - Manitoba

Request for Public Submissions Manitoba

Aboriginal Memoranda of Understanding & Protocols

International Symposium of *Planning, Resource Use & Resource Protection in the Boreal Environment*

ESPI Website

3

Appendix 8.3

Community & Stakeholder Submissions

East Side Planning Initiative
#405 – 326 Broadway Avenue
Winnipeg, MB
R3C 0J5

Issues and Opportunities

Comments on Wild Rice

Wild rice is a natural food which has been used traditionally as a food source, and more recently as an income supplement for northern harvesters.

No Protected Areas or National /Provincial Park development should infringe or restrict the potential of wild rice harvesting, development or propagation within the East Side Planning Area.

As the transportation network evolves throughout the East Side area, the economic benefits for the wild rice industry will surely increase due to reduced production costs

As an enhancement for a viable economic resource, the Province of Manitoba should make conscientious effort to assist and support harvesters and producers in the marketing of Manitoba wild rice.

C White for the

Canada Wild Rice Council
PO Box 518
Lac du Bonnet, MB
R0E 1A0

HAYES RIVER HERITAGE DESIGNATION

BRIEF FROM: MANITOBA PROSPECTORS &DEVELOPERS ASSOCIATION
June 4, 2003 Meeting

**The Manitoba Prospectors and Developers Association (MPDA) strongly opposes the Hayes River being designated as a Canadian Heritage River.
MPDA's firm position is that the interests of Manitoba will best be served by leaving the Hayes River as is, governed by the Provinces existing, strict, environmental laws and regulations. MPDA therefore requests that the current process, for designation and management planning for the River, be stopped immediately.**

**The principal reason for this position is that the Hayes River dissects and passes completely through the north-central Superior Geological Province of the Precambrian Shield of Canada in Manitoba. The Canadian Shield, from Labrador to Manitoba and in the NWT/Nunavut, is the treasure house of enormous mineral wealth in Canada and is and was the principal economic engine for the development of northern Canada and a major contributor to the high standard of living established in our Country.
The Superior Province within Manitoba's borders is largely an under-explored , untapped region of great mineral potential. Mineral exploration and development is by far the best opportunity for economic progress and job creation for the many depressed communities of northern Manitoba.**

**Even if a Hayes Heritage River management plan clearly states that it accommodates mining development, the perception and indeed experience of the industry is that there is another added discretionary control and impediment. Future investment in high risk, high cost prospecting and exploration in the huge Hayes River basin will diminish or cease. This was the case after the Seal River became a Heritage River; work dried up in the Seal River Greenstone mineral belt.
The operative words in the current Hayes River documentation is 'preservation' and 'conservation'. Industry knows that this is the ultimate objective or why bother declaring the River. Prospectors and geologists explore under the strict, Manitoba Work Permit regulations which includes the packaging of all garbage etc. and fly out, often at great expense. Drawing more attention to the Hayes through Heritage designation will result in much increased traffic by the tourist, canoeist and camper, well known to be the greater polluters of the wilderness.**

**The Hayes River passes through many Greenstone Belts from Norway House, Echimamish River, Logan, Oxford, Knee, Swampy Lakes and Fox River and many others on its path and in its watershed. These Belts are highly prospective for gold, silver, copper, zinc, nickel, platinum metals and diamonds. East of Knee Lake the Gods Lake gold mine operated 1935 –1943 and the Monument Bay gold deposits are currently being drilled. Diamonds are receiving considerable attention in the northern Superior and there are many known mineral occurrences in this vast region of the Hayes basin.
Recent discoveries and mine developments of diamonds and nickel-copper in similar rocks in the Shield of NWT and Labrador are adding billions of dollars to the economies of the north and Canada as a whole.**

All mining activities in Manitoba, past and present, have occupied land comparable in size to Winnipeg airport or a loonie on a football field. Mining borrows the land for a relatively

short period of time to extract minerals essential to our modern way of life; then with current, stringent environmental laws of operation and closure, the disturbed land is quickly reclaimed by nature.

Most Provinces and Territories have two Heritage Rivers so Manitoba is well represented with the two it already has, the Seal River in the north and the Bloodvein River in the south. Let us just leave it there.

The Manitoba Protected Areas campaign, of which the MPDA is an active and positive participant, is doing an excellent job of preserving, from any development, large regions of land throughout Manitoba, including in the Hayes River basin.

There are many difficulties facing mine finders in Manitoba and Canada. Ever increasing Parks, Wildlife and Ecological and Heritage management areas, Treaty Land entitlements, Northern Flood settlements, Resource Management and Community Interest Zones, Work Permit regulations, Fisheries and Oceans Canada new regulations, tighter securities regulations, competing resource developers eg. Hydro, strong, drawn out environmental reviews and regulations and general land access problems. As a result investments in this very uncertain sector have been falling badly for years.

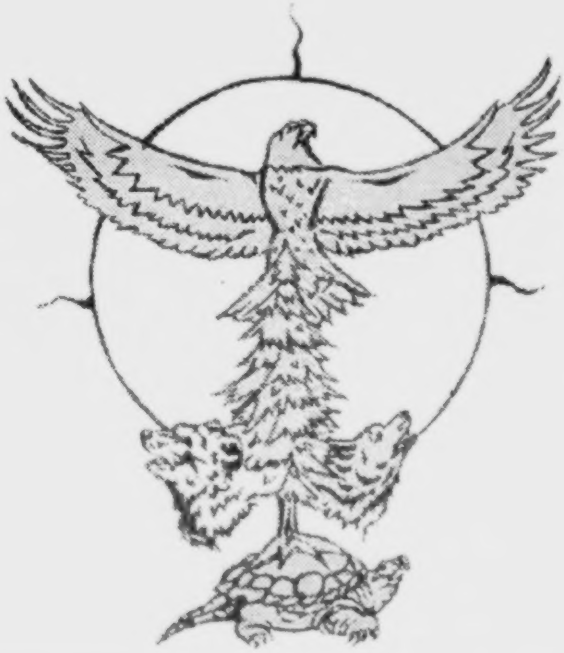
Manitoba Industry, Trade and Mines have many positive policies and programs trying to attract mineral developers to our Province. It is discouraging that the Manitoba Conservation Department continues to generate programs that counteract these incentives for northern economic development and job creation.

The MPDA feel that the establishment of the Hayes as a Heritage River will be 'the last straw' resulting in a serious reduction or end to future mineral development in a vast part of the prospective, north-central Shield of Manitoba. This would result in the loss of potential, major economic progress in a region so in need of job creation. The MPDA therefore requests that the Hayes River Heritage program cease immediately.

Submitted on behalf of: Manitoba Prospectors & Developers Association
By: D. Fogwill, BSc., P. Geo., Prospector/Consulting Geologist

cc. Premier, Manitoba
Ministers, DMs, ADMs; Industry, Trade & Mines and Conservation.
MPDA Officers, Directors, Members
Man-Sask PDA
Mining Association of Manitoba
PDAC T. Andrews

D Fogwill



Recommendations
For The
East Side Planning Initiative Round Table
From
Land of the Spirits/Spirits of the Land
Gatherings III: May, 2004
Raven's Creek, Hollow Water First Nation
Sponsored by
The Anishinaabe Turtle Island Protectors

Table of Content

GATHERING BACKGOUNDER................................1

RECOMMENDATIONS...3

APPENDECIES...7

GATHERING WORKSHOP QUESTIONS & SUMMARY 8

GATHERING RESPONSES 9

HOLLOW WATER SURVEY: 14

ELDERS DECLARATION 21

Final Recommendations to the ESPI

Sponsored by: Anishinaabe Turtle Island Protectors
Prepared by: The Boreal Forest Network, May 2004

Gathering Background:

During the years 2001, 2003 and 2004, elders, traditional land users and youth from First Nation communities on the East Side of Lake Winnipeg gathered for the **LAND OF THE SPIRITS/SPIRITS OF THE LAND TRADITIONAL GATHERINGS.** They came to smoke their pipes, pray to the Creator for guidance and to discuss in sharing circles, what would be identified as issues and recommendations for the East Side Planning Initiative (ESPI) regarding of the proposed development plans on the East Side of Lake Winnipeg. Specifically, they explored the impacts on their cultural fabric, traditional territories and to Mother Earth. These people and their families depend on a healthy, fully functional and diverse ecosystem for their cultural and economic survival.

These people and their families have lived in this region of Manitoba for thousands of years and still depend on a healthy, fully functional and diverse ecosystem for their cultural and economic survival.

At issue for these community members, was the proposed construction of hydroelectric dams and erecting of associated High Voltage Transmission Lines, that would travel for hundreds of kilometres down the East side of Lake Winnipeg. Coupled with Manitoba Hydro's development intentions, is a proposed expansion, to increase the geographic area and the amount of forest clear-cut annually, to feed Tembec's paper mill operations in Pine Falls. The impacts on traplines, from these development intentions, plus the proposed construction of hundreds of kilometres of all weather roads and connecting logging roads, pressing further northwards into inaccessible forest areas currently undistributed by large-scale industrial development, were also clearly on the minds of those who participated in the Gatherings.

Participants also focused on the Manitoba governments' current large area planning exercise (ESPI) for the forest region on the East Side of Lake Winnipeg. The consensus reached expressed concern that it was a process to justify approval of large-scale development projects proposed for the region.

Elders noted that if government truly intended to do real land use planning, a planning process would have been initiated, engaged and worked with grassroots members of Aboriginal communities in assisting those communities in preparing traditional use study for their territories that would lead to community driven plans that reflect the values flowing from the traditional use studies.

Popular River First Nation had successfully obtained interim protection from large-scale development activities for their traditional territory – approximately 800,000 hectares. This First Nation community used a 1998 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), which creates a process for First Nations to nominate protected areas.

Trappers who attended the Gatherings developed a regional aboriginal trappers association to advocate and defend their rights to trap and protect the ecological integrity of their trap lines, to insure their traditional livelihood activities sustain future generations.

Participants at the gathering concluded; while there may be some minimal advantage, the social and environmental impacts of large-scale development projects would far out weigh the benefits. They expressed fears that the land they depend on as a culture would be irreparably harmed. Elders and youth alike felt an urgent need to send a clear message to governments that these types of development projects should not precede.

Elders also noted it was the Creator who gave the Anishinaabe responsibility to protect Mother Earth, a responsibility that they must take seriously. In keeping with this important responsibility, First Nation grassroots people attending the gatherings were looking for solutions to allow their communities – not outside developers - to manage, plan, and protect the natural resources in their traditional territories. This in turn would allow them to build an economy based on their inherent rights, which is so necessary to achieve self-determination and self-government. Further, they demanded to be consulted in a meaningful way before any new development projects preceded on their traditional territories.

The outcomes from Gatherings 2 and 3 were built on the work of the first Gathering, focusing on the development of recommendations to the ESPI and how aboriginal peoples can organize to effect holistic development, achieve meaningful community consultation, informed consent and government-to-government consultation.

Attached to this document is the survey that was developed for participants and the grassroots community members. The survey was designed to assist in the development of the ESPI recommendations and to focus on the concerns expressed regarding proposed development activities on the East Side of Lake Winnipeg.

The Gatherings also provided a venue to explore what community members saw as holistic development, meaningful community consultation, informed consent and government-to-government consultation and decision-making. Below are the Gathering III participant responses, which serves as the foundation for the final recommendations by the Anishinaabe Turtle Island Protectors to the ESPI.

Recommendations to the ESPI Round Table:

The following recommendations were finalized and approved by the Gathering participants at the May, 2004 Gathering held at Hollow Water First Nation. These 27 recommendations encompass the primary issues brought forward at Gatherings I, II and III.

1. **Existing obligations under the Treaties must be met before any planning process is engaged. The Manitoba Government should make a good faith effort to finalize outstanding Treaty Land Entitlement and meet existing Treaty obligations with First nations communities on the East Side of Lake Winnipeg.**

2. **The Manitoba Government and industry should make a clear written statement that no Treaty or Aboriginal Rights can be abrogated.**

3. **Government and Industry should have a written set of consultation guidelines, policies or protocols regarding development proposals that may infringe on Treaty and or Aboriginal Rights before consulting with Aboriginal communities. These consultation guidelines, policies or protocols must be incorporated into the planning process for the East Side of Lake Winnipeg.**

4. **That a *Protocol Agreement* be developed between the government of Manitoba and all First Nation communities on the East Side of Lake Winnipeg and that this agreement will become an integral part of the planning process.**

5. Governments, industry and crown corporations must recognize, respect, and honour local agreements between First Nations respecting First Nations traditional, cultural, and resource territories, as this is imperative to creating greater control and participation for local communities.

6. Governments should support the creation of an ESPI Youth Council that will participate in any land use/development planning process.

7. Government should support the creation of a ESPI Elders Council that will participate in any land use/development planning process.

8. Government should support the creation of a East Side Lake Winnipeg Trappers Council that will participate in any land use/development planning process.

9. Government should support the creation of a Women's Council that will participate in any land use/development planning process.

10. An ecosystem-based process that protects the boreal environment and directly involves First Nations, Métis, Non-Aboriginal communities, industries and non-government organizations should guide land use planning and decisions.

11. It must be recognized that Aboriginal Peoples and each of the First Nation communities on the Eastside of Lake Winnipeg have the right to manage, plan, control and protect the natural resources within their traditional territories.

12. Government, industry and Aboriginal communities should work together to protect First Nations culturally significant areas, sacred sites, ceremonial, historical sites and burial sites without disclosing the exact location. The goal is to protect these important sites from the damage and other impacts caused by development.

13. Community-based land use planning initiatives by First Nation communities on the Eastside of Lake Winnipeg should be completed prior to any large-scale development activities commencing within the ESPI planning area.

14. Governance systems within Aboriginal communities must support and respect traditional activities and uses in any land use process.

15. The Manitoba and Federal Governments must support and promote the First Nations Accord World Heritage Site nomination.

16. First Nation communities are solely responsible for identifying their traditional resource territories.

17. Additional lands within Aboriginal Traditional Territories must be set aside or protected to exercise First Nations Constitutional Rights for traditional uses, hunting, fishing and trapping.

18. Government and Industry should assist in providing resources and funding to enable Aboriginal communities on the Eastside of Lake Winnipeg to undertake or complete Traditional Land Use and Occupancy Studies within their traditional territories before any large-scale development occurs.

19. All First Nations communities in the ESPI Planning Area must be provided with resources & money (from Federal, Provincial and other sources) to develop land use plans for their traditional use areas.

20. All First Nations communities in the ESPI Planning Area must be provided with resources & money (from Federal, Provincial and other sources) to develop and complete traditional land use studies, and occupancy studies.

21. Governments must provide funding for or develop more human capacity building initiatives and programs to realize and participate in the full potential of activities in regions and territories.

22. Governments must enhance and support more effective skills training programs for First Nation in the region as part of overall employment strategy. This funding should not be tied to any future large-scale development proposals.

23. Government must enhance and support capacity development for communities to acquire information and the resources necessary for effective land use planning in their traditional territories, and create an educational/training program targeted specifically to Aboriginal youth to enable them to deal with environmental and resource issues in their home communities.

24. Aboriginal Elders, Youth and Women, in consultation with grassroots community members, must be engage in any planning processes for their communities.

25. Government must share a percentage of the royalties generated from existing large-scale industrial development in the region with the First Nation communities.

26. Government must support and continue implementing decisions and activities with respect to the First Nations/Manitoba Government MOU on Protect Areas.

27. Governments need to support the means for communities to gain benefits from initiatives and activities within communities and territories.

GATHERING REPORT APPENDICES

1. Gathering Workshop Questions and Summary
2. Gathering Summary Responses:
3. Hollow Water Survey
4. Elders Declaration

1. Gathering Workshop Questions and Summary:

The questions below were developed by a Consultant to explore what participants saw as holistic development, meaningful community consultation, informed consent and government-to-government consultation and decision- making.

The Nine Workshop Questions are:

1. ***What is Mother Earth?***
2. ***What is the meaning of 'caretaking' and 'stewardship'?***
3. ***What are the 'gifts' and 'natural' laws?***
4. ***Do the concepts of Mother Earth, caretaking and stewardship mean there should be no development?***
5. ***What is the meaning of holistic development?***
6. ***How should grassroots community consultation, informed consent and government-to-government consultations be conducted to make them 'meaningful?***
7. ***How should aboriginal peoples organize to effect holistic development? Identify the steps and needs.***
8. ***How should these steps and needs be applied to the East Side of Lake Winnipeg?***
9. ***Who should be included in deciding the future East Side of Lake Winnipeg? What are the roles?***

2. Gathering ii Summary Responses:

The following is a summary, taken from the workshop notes at the second Gathering, of the participant's responses to each question.

What is Mother Earth?

Mother Earth is nature, a living breathing entity, the one who created us, our home, no different that our Mother's womb. It is our home under threat because of greed and lack of vision. It is the planet, the country where nobody goes. Areas should be free of human interventions. It is people and the circle of life. We are all Mother earth, part of her. She takes care of us, feeds and clothes us. When we hurt Mother Earth, we hurt ourselves. All things are sustained and nurtured by her and the Great Spirit.

What is Mother Earth?

Mother Earth is nature, a living breathing entity, the one who created us, our home, no different that our Mother's womb.

It is people and the circle of life. We are all Mother earth, part of her. She takes care of us, feeds and clothes us. When we hurt Mother Earth, we hurt ourselves.

There is a need to understand the different relationships between Grandmother Moon, Grandfather Sun, Father Sky and Mother Earth. We need to respect the relationships we have with each other, and recognize that everything changes, it is always in motion, nothing is constant. We also need to understand that diversity in all things is essential to the well being of all life.

Mother Earth is a place of growth and adaptation. All this we need to understand.

What is the meaning of caretaking and stewardship?

We can neither be caretakers or stewards until we understand the interconnectedness of life. All of us who live on Mother Earth are held within a symbiotic relationship, what affects one affects all. When we use words like caretaker or steward, we are accepting the responsibility of working for the well being of all and the living planet. This means if you take something, replace it with something. Make an offering, recycle, reuse and donate.

Industry sees Mother Earth as separate and compartmentalized and develops projects from that basis. Mother Earth is connected and inter-connected; we ignore that at our peril. Intrinsic value has meaning in of it self and includes cultural and spiritual values that reflect healthier practices and alternatives.

Remember if you take care of Mother Earth you have a right to protect and defend her. Given the perilous condition of Mother Earth, we also must be caregivers not only caretakers.

Caretaking and stewardship can also imply that we are higher than nature rather than interdependent. It also can imply that we know what we are doing but are often blind to Mother Earth and the Creator being caretakers and caregivers. Mother Earth can take care of herself.

Education is also a responsibility of caretakers. We need to teach the young ones the meaning of caretaking, compassion, respect and responsibility using the Seven Teachings. A lot of us are still babies and learning about life. Caretaking and stewardship is about walking lightly, leaving no footprints on her. Keeping things in balance and healing the harm. It is about exploring and creating alternatives, working together for a better future.

What are the gifts and natural laws?

The Seven Teachings, Love, Respect, Wisdom, Courage, Trust, Honesty and Humility. The natural elements are gifts, Earth, Wind, Fire and Water. The awareness that everything is interconnected, there is no "other" we are all one.

Everything Mother Earth provides is a gift and reflected in healing, life and life giving. Intuition, spirituality, learning, to know yourself, your purpose, and your limits these are gifts. Life is a gift and within that framework we are all given tools as gifts to fulfill our purpose.

Natural Laws are as simple as do not shit where you get your water from and as complex as the interconnectedness of all life. Our place is to find the way to be a peace with Mother Earth and all her creatures.

How we can act on our awareness of natural laws is by taking care of the land, treating people the way you want to be treated, learning right from wrong and being disciplined enough to take only what you need. Learning from your mistakes and experiences and not taking yourself too seriously. Share, live by example and teach respect and compassion for Mother Earth.

Do the concepts of Mother Earth, caretaking and stewardship mean there should be no development?

Large-scale industrial development versus small-scale value added labour intensive development with local ownership and control that is connected to the land. This small-scale value added development must be tied to consumer education and awareness that will help overcome the consumption addiction experienced in North America. Current development practices create greater dependences on higher consumption. Until this changes there should be no industrial development in our backyards.

Industry sees Mother Earth as separate and compartmentalized and develops projects from that basis. Mother Earth is connected and inter-connected; we ignore that at our peril. Intrinsic value has meaning in of it self and includes cultural and spiritual values that reflect healthier practices and alternatives.

We attach value to material possessions, and the problem is with ownership of resources when sharing should occur. For instance, work with local communities and build capacity, engage in community development projects and create better practices.

Look for alternatives that are less harmful to Mother Earth, it is time we put an interconnected and interdependent concept of ecology into development proposals, especially when the technology exists to do so.

What is the meaning of holistic development?

Development should be in balance and in harmony with earth and that pays people to do positive development options. It is ecological recovery, thinking about the future and learning from the past. Alternatives that are respectful to Mother Earth must take precedence.

The people who live in the surrounding environment should have deciding power, creating economic development that works for communities not corporations. All development should take into account the long-term impacts, not only the short term. It should also reflect the interconnectedness of Mother Earth. We also have to heal the urban/rural disconnect.

For communities, they should reclaim democracy, people need to take responsibility and become more involved in non-destructive activities. This means that we become accountable. First Nations should have Self Government and more control over what happens on their Traditional Lands.

We are the imaginators: we should dream better dreams and remember the Dream of the Turtle.

How should grassroots community consultation, informed consent and government-to-government consultations be conducted to make them meaningful?

We are the grassroots community, and developers must come to our communities and all information must be given prior to consulting with the communities. Existing obligations under the Treaties must be met before any process is engaged.

Protocol agreements are seen as a process of consultation, but we also must have the legal meanings of informed consent and consultation. This is what will lead to the creation of legal binding agreements.

At this time, the Government, Band Leadership and the ESPI Committee are not informing the community of the proposals and the environmental impacts of those proposals. For the communities to be heard we need to be united and take responsibility to be heard as one people. Right now there are some communities who have a 3rd party community consultation policy that they are not following. The ESPI process is not answerable to communities nor has it provided any answers to our questions and

We can work with people who want to help, and we can organize a Land Use Planning conference of Objibways and Cree to develop one voice so developers can no longer divide us to conquer us and take our resources. If we are to have a future for ourselves and for future generations, with fresh water and clean air, there must be action soon.

we do not believe that it will ever do so. This is because there is currently no benefit to the communities in the Eastside development proposals. We will lose our traditional way of life and our traditional economies.

Some things can be done. We can work with people who want to help, and we can organize a Land Use Planning conference of Objibways and Cree to develop one voice so developers can no longer divide us or conquer us and take our resources. If we are to have a future for ourselves and for future generations, with fresh water and clean air, there must be action soon.

1. ***FNLP will not benefit with the current arrangement with Tembec.***
2. ***Create a Youth Council, Elders Council and Women's Council that will participate in the planning process: This will ensure that these voices will be heard in any planning process that is undertaken.***
3. ***Educate the young ones about the connection to the land.***
4. ***Work with elders and gather our leaders in community.***
5. ***Develop a process to create leaders.***
6. ***Develop our own land use and community development plan.***
7. ***Demand a moratorium on development on the East side of Lake Winnipeg.***
8. ***Seek information, it does not just come to you and learn and understand western values and systems, talk to them in their own language.***
9. ***Bridge the gap between elders and youth.***

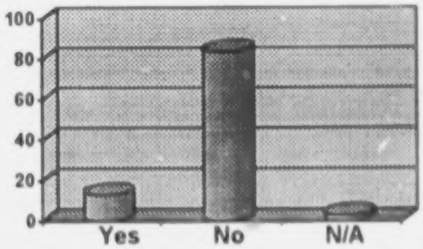
3. Hollow Water Survey:

There is a total on reserve population in Hollow Water of 620 with 360 people being 15 years or older. The survey sample size was 100 persons 15 years or older. The following are the survey questions and responses.

There is a total on reserve population in Hollow Water of 620 with 360 people being 15 years or older. The survey sample size was 100 persons 15 years or older.

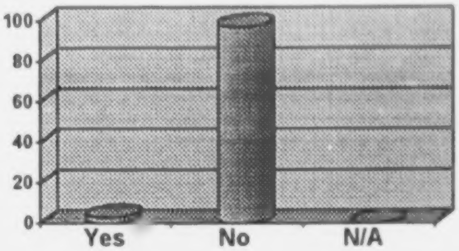
Hollow Water Survey Results:

Question 1: Do you think the current educational opportunities for Aboriginal students after they graduate from high school are adequate?



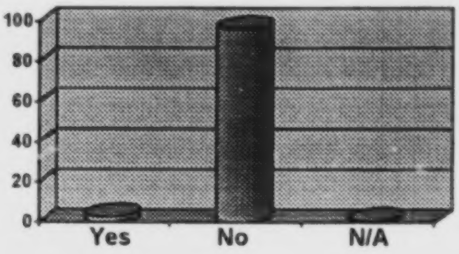
Response to Question 1

Question 2: Do you think schools include enough content from an Aboriginal perspective?



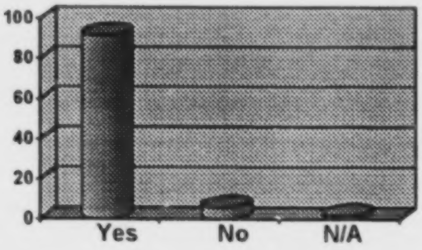
Response to Question 2

Question 3: Do you think schools include enough information about Aboriginal and environmental and resource management issues?



Response to Question 3

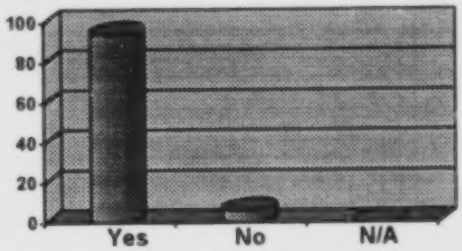
Question 4: Do you think Manitoba needs a special program for Aboriginal students to train to deal with resource management and environmental issues in their home communities?



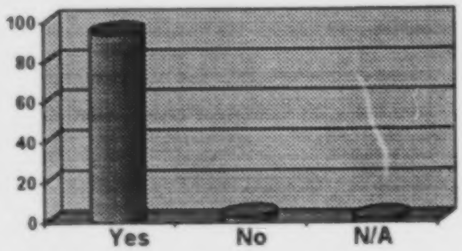
Response to Question 4

Question 5: Do you think it is important for Aboriginal communities to do Traditional Land Use Studies on their Traditional Territories before outside development?

Response to Question 5



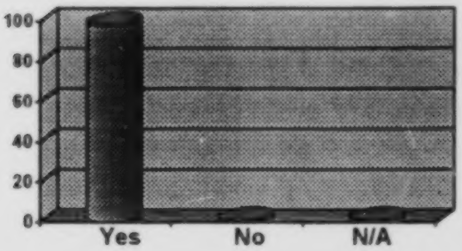
Question 6: Do you think governments and/or industry should have a written consultation policy that is meaningful and is legally binding before consulting with Aboriginal communities about resource development that may infringe on Aboriginal treaty rights?



Response to Question 6

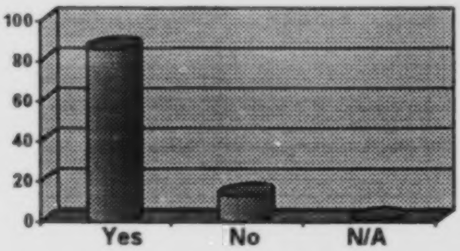
Sponsored by: Anishinaabe Turtle Island Protectors and
Prepared by: The Boreal Forest Network, May 2004

Question 7: Do you think Aboriginal communities should be able to manage, plan, control and protect the natural resources in their Traditional Territories?



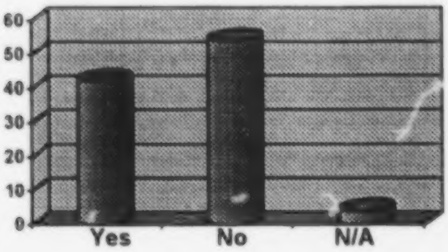
Response to Question 7

Question 8: Do you think that Traditional Knowledge should be included into any land use planning exercise?



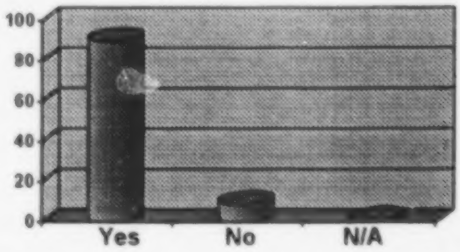
Response to Question 8

Question 9: Do you think Aboriginal communities should share revenues from government and/or industry for resources that are extracted from Aboriginal communities' Traditional Territories?



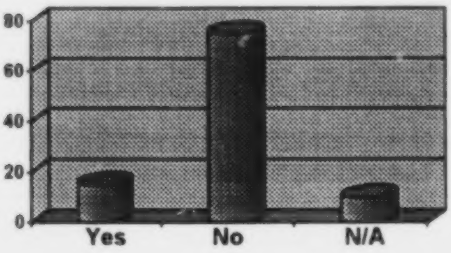
Response to Question 9

Question 10: Do you think it is important that additional land in Aboriginal communities' Traditional Territories be protected from large-scale industrial development in order to continue practicing traditional activities such as hunting, fishing and trapping?



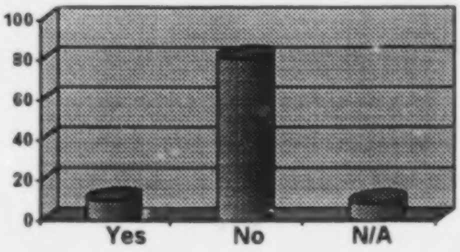
Response to Question 10

Question 11: Does your community have its own plan for creating its own jobs and a good local economy?



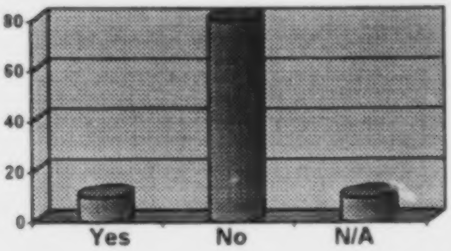
Response to Question 11

Question 12: Do the Elders and political leadership work together when developing a plan for the future of the community?



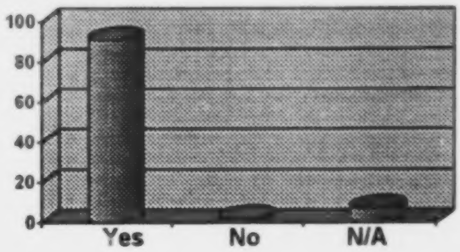
Response to Question 12

Question 13: Does the present governance system in your community attempt to support traditional values in its planning process?



Response to Question 13

Question 14: Would it help your community to have the support of other communities on the east side of Lake Winnipeg and work together as a regional group to negotiate with government?



Response to Question 14

4. Elders Declaration:

Preamble:

We, Elders and Traditional People, from Turtle Island, are truly concerned for the health of Mother Earth.

"We must realize that this Mother Earth does not belongs to us, but that we have to care for and maintain the delicate balance of Nature for the sake of the well-being of our children and of all future generations. It is our duty as Humans to preserve Mother Earth and to honour the intentions of our Creator."

We see many signs of damage within the forests, lakes, rivers and sky. Our way of life is threatened, as are the winged ones, the four legged, the crawlers and those that swim.

Therefore, we declare:

That the gifts and Natural Laws of the Creator are our greatest concern. However, all First Nations Constitutional, Treaty and Inherent Rights must be fulfilled in any decisions regarding our Traditional Lands.

That grassroots community (voters and young people) consultation and consent precede Government-to-Government consultations, which themselves pass the test of meaningfulness, in any development decisions, regulations, legislation and agreements regarding our Traditional Lands and Natural Resources.

This declaration applies, but is not limited to, any of the following development or resource planning activities that affect our Traditional Lands and Resources:

- Land Use Planning,
- Mining & Exploration,
- Highways & Roads,
- Hydro, Energy, or Oil and Gas Development activities,
- Large Scale Forestry Development,
- Tourism and
- Sharing of Knowledge.

We are committed to follow through on this Declaration and we invite you to work with us.

In conclusion, the Old Ones say we are to respect these gifts given to us by the Creator and that if we respect these gifts they will last forever. And if we disrespect these gifts and if we destroy them they will end and we will end.

APR 15 2004

Manitoba Model Forest Inc.

For all our relations

P.O. Box 6500, Mill Road, Pine Falls, MB R0E 1M0
Tel: (204) 367-5232 Fax: (204) 367-8897
Email: bdube@mb.sympatico.ca

March 29, 2004

Chairman and Members
East Side Lake Winnipeg Round Table
Room 405
326 Broadway, Winnipeg, MB
R3C 0S5

Subject : Recommendations to the Round Table

Dear Round Table Members;

Enclosed are a number of recommendations developed by the Board of Directors of the Manitoba Model Forest for your consideration in the development of a broad area plan for the east side of Lake Winnipeg.

These recommendations were developed over the past winter. The MBMF Board initially went through an issue identification process that resulted in the broad category headings that preceed the recommendations. Once developed a full day facilitated workshop was held in December 2003 to develop draft recommendations under each issue heading. On March 24th , 2004 the Board of Directors unanimously approved the enclosed recommendations. You may share these recommendations among your advisory committees or others as you best determine.

As you will see an overriding theme to the recommendations is process and procedures with respect to consultation.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Manitoba Model Forest we sincerely hope that these recommendations will prove helpful in your task to develop a broad area plan for the east side of Lake Winnipeg.

Yours truly

J.M. Waldram R.P.F.
General Manager

cc. Blair McTavish

Manitoba Model Forest Inc

Board of Directors Recommendations to East Side Lake Winnipeg Round Table

MANITOBA
MODEL FOREST NETWORK
RÉSEAU DE FORÊTS MODÈLES

Natural Resources Canada | Ressources naturelles Canada
Canadian Forest Service | Service canadien des forêts

2003/2004 BOARD APPOINTMENTS

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

Brokenhead Ojibway First Nation
Canadian Forest Service
Community of Bissett
Community of Manigotagan
Community of Seymourville/Aghaming
Hollow Water First Nation
LGD of Pinawa
Little Black River First Nation
Manitoba Conservation
Manitoba Conservation (Environment Dept.)
Manitoba Metis Federation Southeast Region
Manitoba Naturalist Society
Manitoba Trappers Assoc.-Member at Large
NESDA
RM of Alexander
RM of Lac du Bonnet
RM of Victoria Beach
Sagkeeng First Nation
Tembec-Pine Falls Operations
Tembec-Pine Falls Unions
Town of Lac du Bonnet
Time to Respect Earth's Ecosystems
University of Manitoba
University of Winnipeg
Waasaabiyaa Shining Waters Heritage Region
Woodlot Association of Manitoba
Wpg River Brokenhead CFDC

East Side Broad Area Planning Initiative
MBMF Board Recommendations

1. Local Economic Benefits

An overriding issue is the increasing population of young people in the area and the lack of economic opportunities. This is particularly evident in the First Nation and Northern Affairs communities. Some of the reasons for this lack of opportunity include ; a perception of policy and regulatory road blocks preventing access to financing, inability to acquire licences for various activities, allowing non-local ownership and the resulting cash outflows. While there is support for economic developments on the East Side there is a frustration at the lack of involvement and participation in decision making related to the granting of licences, permits etc and ensuring economic benefits are realized locally

While there appears to be many training opportunities for local people to acquire the skills necessary to participate in economic development activities the training is not being realized into jobs.

There appears to be new opportunities developing on the East Side for economic development in partnership with industry and government eg. Forestry, Hydro, Parks, Eco-Tourism , however, there is a sense of inaction and lack of support and promotion from all levels of government to potential partnerships.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1.1 There are a number of training programs that need to be developed and delivered in the area ie.on site at the community level. Examples include: Emergency Fire Fighting, First Aid, Dangerous Goods, Presentation Skills, Emergency Readiness, Ecotourism, Life Skills, Proposal Preparation.

1.2 A formal assessment should be done that would identify current and anticipated economic opportunities and skill sets that will be required to take advantage of these opportunities and create jobs for local people. Training programs such as Entrepreneurial Small Business Skills should then be designed and delivered to meet these needs.

1.3 Future development should be contingent on the establishment of processes and policies that ensure community involvement , training and employment and that resource allocation decisions involve local communities.

1.4 Local Economic Development Round Tables need to be established and supported through for example a Regional Development Corporation.

1.5 Mechanisms for resource sharing need to be researched , piloted and implemented to ensure more benefits from resource extraction and use flow to local communities.

2. Roads and Access

Roads , highways, primary, secondary and tertiary can have both positive and negative implications relative to economic, social and environmental considerations. These implications will also impact communities already accessed both inside and outside the planning area through increased traffic both coming from and going to the ESLUP area. While it is recognized that isolated communities should be given priority for road access if they so wish it , previous examples should be studied to ensure the implications are known and addressed/ mitigated. Also at issue is the development of roads into areas in which there is a lack of knowledge about the values being accessed and the impact access and the influx of people can have on these values. Eg. Wildlife, fisheries, water quality, traditional gathering sites, spiritual sites There appears to be conflicting policies within government departments over issues such as access planning, access management, use, control, and decommissioning , community consultation, and standards.

RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 Decisions to provide access to isolated communities should be based on the isolated communities desires not on others and the MBMF will support community wishes.

2.2 Road management plans need to be developed for all roads prior to construction regardless of road standard . These plans would include standard options, location options, environmental impact mitigation plans, decommissioning plans and access restriction plans. The process of road management planning needs to have a thorough public consultation process built in.

2.3 Road location planning should occur in conjunction with Hydro Bi-Pole planning.

2.4 New business opportunities related to road construction, maintenance and increased traffic will result. Local communities and people should be helped and given priority for these jobs and business opportunities.

2.5 New roads will increase hunting pressure on wildlife. Co-management wildlife systems need to be researched, piloted and implemented prior to road construction.

2.6 New roads particularly a primary access road will require increased policing, signage and safety features.

2.7 Case studies of the impact road access has had on other remote communities should be conducted or the information gathered to help understand both positive and negative environmental and social impacts access would have and to prepare mitigation measures where needed. * Note this recommendation also applies under the Research and Development Section

3. Planning Process

Issues related to Planning Process include both the ESLUP itself and subsequent development plans and environmental assessments or impact statements. eg. New or expanded Forest Management Licences and forest management plans, Highway development plans, Hydro transmission lines, cottage developments , parks. With respect to the ESLUP there is a lack of confidence in government to accept and implement or implement in a timely fashion the recommendations ultimately developed by the Round Table and accepted by the Government. There is an issue related to the integrity of the planning process itself and subsequent planning processes in ensuring " meaningful" consultation and communication. There is an issue about ultimate accountability for the plan and how the plan will be implemented and by whom. There is an issue about the need for community planning prior to large scale development planning.

It is evident that the Round`Table cannot fully complete its task as outlined in their Terms of Reference by the June 2004 deadline. At issue then is how or if future development plans can or will proceed with an incomplete ESLUP.

RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 The Manitoba Gov't should formally and publicly respond to the recommendations of the East Side Round Table indicating which recommendations they will accept, reject or modify and how. This response should also include an implementation plan and schedule with responsibility clearly indicated eg. Who is responsible for implementation of what, how is it to be done, when is it to be done and what if any are the financial implications and costs.

3.2 The East Side Land Use Plan should be considered a " living document " and as such should include defined review and revision periods and processes. The Round Table should be maintained and be given the responsibility to conduct these reviews and make recommendations on revisions. Reviews and recommended revisions by the Round Table should be made public and be guided by a communications strategy. Recommendation 3.1 should be followed as well for plan review and revisions.

3.3 Prior to future plans eg. Revised LUP, forest management plans, hydro plans , highway plans etc local communities should complete land use plans for surrounding areas of their interest so that areas of traditional and current use or importance are well documented and used in future consultation processes. Adequate resources to complete these plans in a timely fashion should be provided presumably by the Federal and Manitoba Gov'ts with assistance of appropriate NGO's and developers.

3.4 The Manitoba Gov't working with First Nations and Northern Affairs communities or their representative organizations should develop clear consultation protocols, guidelines, policies and responsibilities for use not only for Gov't agencies but for developers as well. It is recognized that these protocols etc will recognize differences between treaty rights, First Nations and others. Already established consultation processes should be considered and reviewed.

3.5 The East Side Plan has to provide clear and broad objectives within which other plans can fit and contribute. The objectives must be measureable so that proper reviews and reporting can be done.

4. Treaty and Aboriginal Rights

All of the area covered by the ESLUP is also covered by Treaties with First Nations. Recognition and definition of Metis peoples rights is developing from current court cases. The majority of people that live in the area covered by the ESLUP are either Treaty Indian or Metis under the Indian Act. The existing rights of these people can be impacted by industrial developments, parks policies, and the increased presence of non-treaty people in the area once and if road access is developed either by negative impacts on the environment eg water quality, wildlife habitat , overharvesting of fish and game or policies that prevent , infringe or inhibit the undertaking of these rights.

Past experience is that aboriginal people have not participated broadly in the benefits of economic development activities in their traditional territories and Treaty Lands nor have they been actively involved in the planning and decision making around such developments to ensure that these benefits accrue and that their concerns for their rights and the environment around them are protected.

There is concern among Treaty people that non-treaty people are uninformed about the Treaties, the areas covered by them and the rights guaranteed under them.

RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 General public and treaty people themselves have poor knowledge of history and the treaties and aboriginal rights. Education system and curriculum in Manitoba should be reviewed to ensure the history, treaties and aboriginal rights are taught from an early age.

4.2 The Manitoba Government needs to complete, finalize and release its Consultation Policies and regulations with respect to First Nation and Metis people as soon as possible.

4.3 Guidelines need to be researched, developed and implemented on the gathering, use and application of Traditional Knowledge in resource and land use planning.

5. Research and Development

While much is known about the environment in the very southern part of the planning area eg. Woodland caribou from MBMF research, a new and improved forest inventory, land use mapping at Hollow Water and Black River, as one moves further north the information gaps and uncertainty are likely to increase. A good example of this is the outdated forest inventory over most of the ESLUP area (north of FML #1). Forest inventories are used as the basic data base for many existing and developing forecasting models and decision support systems when making predictions about wood supply, habitat supply, biodiversity, . Even with good forest inventories and inventories/ understanding of other values, we still face the potential impacts of climate change on the forest, other values and communities. Our understanding of climate change impacts and adaptation measures is rudimentary at best. Policy making and land use decisions made today need to consider the implications of climate change and as we learn more , policy and land use decisions will need to adjust. While policy and land use decisions change with public values, public values need to be influenced by good information and science. The MBMF recognizes that we will never know all we would like to before land use decisions are made and as such embrace the concepts of adaptive management and a precautionary approach. These concepts require and are based on continued learning, monitoring, research and development , and adjusting while moving forward with land use decisions.

RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 A structure and process is needed to prioritize research and development needs for the area that would include and involve local communities in helping to set priorities and to provide local knowledge. An east side R &D panel should be established to guide research and ensure continuity and completion of programs and projects. This panel could also ensure that research is being used appropriately in making policy, guidelines and land use decisions and perhaps more importantly conveying to decision makers where uncertainty exists and how to apply the adaptive management and precautionary approach.

5.2 Best management practices for access management to address biophysical and socio-economic impacts should be prepared and implemented.

6. Parks, Protected Areas, Parks Planning, Parks Use

Manitoba's Protected Areas Initiative is a government program dedicated to building a network of protected areas that contains the biological diversity found in Manitoba's varied landscapes.

Manitoba's commitment to establish a network of protected areas began in 1990, when the province committed to World Wildlife Fund Canada's Endangered Spaces Campaign.

Manitoba's Protected Areas includes provincial and federal parks and ecological reserves. The following maps show the extent of current protected areas, areas of special interest that may become protected and the degree to which enduring features have already been captured by EcoRegion. A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between the Manitoba Government and AMC, MKO and the Southern Chiefs Organization outlining a consultation process.

At issue is the length of time the process of designating protected areas is taking and the fact that the process will continue after the deadline for submission of the East Side Plan. As well there is likely to be disagreements over the amount ,extent and location of lands designated as protected areas and parks where development activities such as logging, mining, and hydro are prohibited. The Province has indicated that First Nations, industry, northern and rural communities and other interest groups are being consulted in the process of designating protected areas. Climate change is predicted to cause an increase in forest fires and insect and disease in this part of Canada .

RECOMMENDATIONS

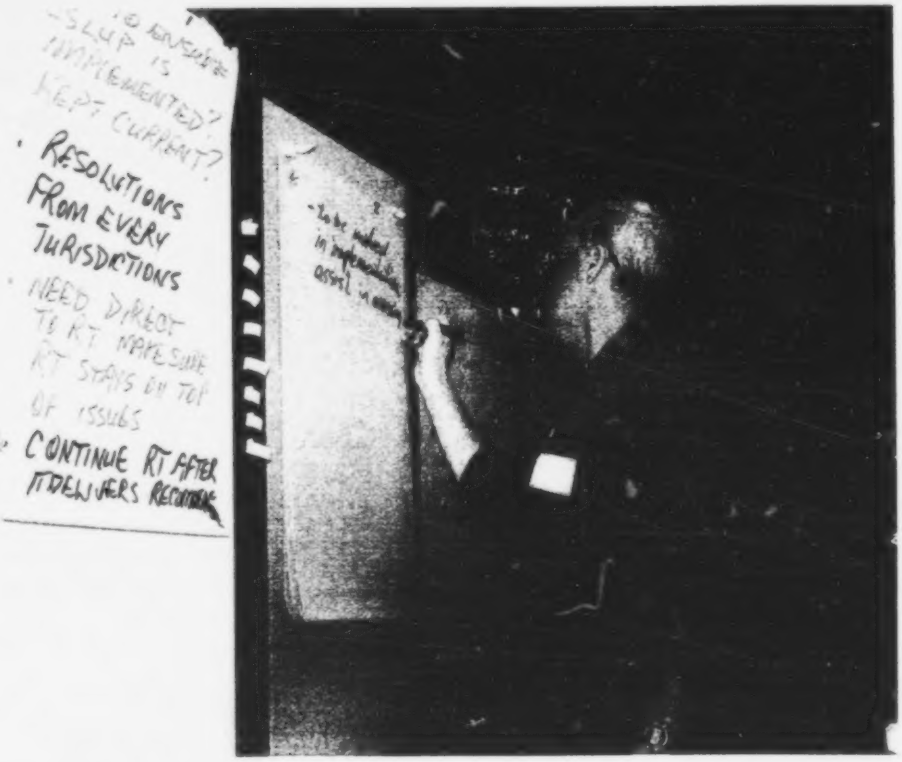
6.1 The current protected areas consultation process is being conducted by the gov't on a stakeholder by stakeholder basis. Attempts must be made to bring all the stakeholders together and strive for consensus while recognizing that communities directly impacted should be given a higher standing in the process.

6.2 There is a good deal of confusion over the terms, types etc of protected areas and implications to eg. Treaty Rights or community desires for road access . More effort is required to clarify the terms, types , permitted uses and implications of protected areas and have this information imparted to the stakeholders and communities.

6.3 Individual protected areas once established should be reviewed periodically eg . every 10 years to assess whether their objectives are being met particularly in light of potential climate change impacts, maintenance of ecological processes, surrounding land uses and life and property in the area. This formal periodic review should be supported by continued monitoring efforts that involve and employ local people.

6.4 The potential impacts of climate change predicted to create drier conditions and therefore increased natural disturbance such as fire, insect and disease do not appear to be considered when designating protected areas or activities that can occur in them. All protected areas should be reviewed against these potential impacts with appropriate strategies developed . eg. Fire Smart Program in Jasper National Park

December 2003 Workshop



TO ENSURE
- SLUP IS IMPLEMENTED? KEPT CURRENT?
- RESOLUTIONS FROM EVERY JURISDICTIONS
- NEED DIRECT TO RT MAKESURE RT STAYS ON TOP OF ISSUES
- CONTINUE RT AFTER IT DELIVERS RECOMMEN

EXIT

DR. W. O. PRUITT
220 WILDWOOD PARK
WINNIPEG, MANITOBA
CANADA R3T 0E3

File: Eco.90-2
Version: 2004-06-09

My contribution of 2000-11-14 entitled "Research and data needed for long-term plan (LTP) for East Side (Eco-Region 90)" gave a brief listing of the types of basic data needed for this project. On the maps displayed in the Norquay Building at the "East Side Lake Winnipeg Preliminary Planning, Phase One" preliminary discussion on Wednesday 2004-05-26 I was disappointed that I did not find any maps that displayed the following categories of basic information that need research:

Runoff of various drainages (amounts, seasons, water quality, especially comparisons of logged vs. unlogged watersheds).
Rivers (rapids, falls, classification of white-water types, mapping of portages).
Index species for types of forest floor vegetation.
Rare, Endangered, Threatened species of plants, distribution, occurrence.
Nesting Colonies, staging and migration routes of birds.
Nests of Eagles, Ospreys, Great Grey Owls, Shrikes, etc.
Distribution of Whitetail Deer, Moose, Caribou, Bear, Wolf, Marten, Fisher, Cougar, Lynx, Wolverine, Woodchuck, Skunk, Coyote.
Caribou fawning areas, rutting areas, winter ranges (especially topographic and vegetation characteristics of thinly-stocked, black spruce bogs used for early-winter range). .
Moose, calving areas, rutting areas, winter ranges.
Wolf, known pack ranges, dens.
Cougar, known sightings, dens.
Wolverine, known sightings, dens.

First approximations of sites for:
- Wilderness areas.
- Research Reserves (including year-round caribou reserves).
- Additional sites for Provincial and/or National Strict Reserves.
- Heritage Rivers (Present and future designations).
- Eco-tourism potential/present bases, sites, routes, special areas for such activities as overland dog-team trips, snowshoe or ski trips, or river trips.
- Non-Timber Forest Products:
  - Suitable sites/areas for:
    - Diamond willow, known sites categorized by species of hosts and fungi, age-classes and stocking of host species for picture frames, lamp standards and walking canes.
    - Blueberries, Saskatoons, categorized by stocking and size of sites.

Paper Birch, number of stems of different size-class diameters, stocking and sizes of patches for sustained yield of stems for tables, chairs, bedsteads, picture frames, lamps. Proximity of birch "sugar bushes" to sites suitable for evaporation and transport routes.

Distribution of species of ferns suitable for fiddlehead harvest.

Because this display is a first approximation the sites would necessarily be rather coarsely-defined. Because the above categories of needed data constitute critical information for sustainable activities, their acquisition and research should receive highest priority, much higher than consideration of tradition-bound, non-sustainable economic activities such as exploitation of mature trees for pulp and lumber. The key to success is for individuals to sell the craft/art/ knowledge activity rather than the raw materials.

W.O. Pruitt, Jr.

William O. Pruitt, Jr.

East Side Planning Initiative (ESPI) Open Houses

Please check location of Open House ___ **Thompson** May 18/04
___ **Lac Du Bonnet** May 20/04
___ **Winnipeg** May 26/04

A number of issues and opportunities have been identified in preliminary discussions with First Nations, local communities, industry and environmental organizations. These include Aboriginal and community development, the Manitoba's Protected Areas Initiative, consultations on land and resource allocations, existing land uses and new development proposals, forestry, transportation, tourism and recreation, hydro and mining. A summary of these discussions can be found on the ESPI Website at....

http://www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/eastsideplan

Copies can be order free of charge by calling (204) 945-8734, (204) 945-4380, or 1-800-214-6497 (toll free).

Now it's Your Turn! We want to know...

1. ***What you believe are the important issues and opportunities that may influence the East Side Planning Area's ability to improve future community economic conditions and quality of life for people?***

COMMENTS: This is our last chance to plan a truly sustainable future for a large region of Manitoba.

2. ***What do you feel are the key issues and opportunities that need to be addressed to preserve the future environmental health of the East Side Planning Area?***

COMMENTS: Opportunity to devise an economic system wherein monetary income is divided among the participants directly instead of arriving to a very few large exploiting companies which then apportion it out according to their own ideas of value of the work performed.

3. ***How do you think the future development and use of the East Side Planning Area's resources should be planned and managed?***

COMMENTS: First step in planning resource use is to have a system of teaching all inhabitants the principles and practices of: ① true ecosystem-based management ② timing of ecological succession recovery periods of various types of exploitation so that true amortizing times of various uses become widely known.

4. ***What other issues do you feel need to be identified for further discussion?***

COMMENTS: Real consideration (and small-scale experimentation) of alternative uses and/or proposals for many kinds of resources. Example: How much income from 10 groups of ecotourists per year, every year in perpetuity compared to income from a single cutting of logs for pulp in rotation of 50+ years compared to income (value of carbon stored only after 150 year regeneration period?

Your views will help us to better appreciate the issues and needs to be addressed by the broad area plan for the East Side of Lake Winnipeg.

You can leave your comments with staff at this Open House or send them your comments (*add additional sheets as necessary*) to **East Side Planning Initiative**, #405-326 Broadway Avenue, Winnipeg MB R3C 0J5. You can also fax your comments to Mr. Bill Anderson at (204) 948-2948, or e-mail them to banderson@gov.mb.ca.

We would appreciate receiving your comment by Wednesday, June 16, 2004.

Thank you for your views!

W.O. Pruitt, Jr.

DR. W. O. PRUITT
220 WILDWOOD PARK
WINNIPEG, MANITOBA
CANADA R3T 0E3

MANITOBA TRAPPERS ASSOCIATION
PO Box 518, Lac du Bonnet, MB R0E 1A0
Phone: (204) 345-9107 Fax: (204) 345-9170
e-mail: mta@mts.net

July 2, 2004

Manitoba Conservation
East Side Planning Initiative
405 – 326 Broadway Avenue
Winnipeg, MB
R3C 0S5

Dear Sirs:

Please find enclosed the position of the Manitoba Trappers Association with regard to the East Side Planning Initiative

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in this important process.

Sincerely,

J.H. Corky Peterson.
President

MANITOBA TRAPPERS ASSOCIATION
PO Box 518, Lac du Bonnet, MB R0E 1A0
Phone: (204) 345-9107 Fax: (204) 345-9170
e-mail: mta@mts.net

Recommendations for the East Side Planning Initiative
Broad Area Plan

The Registered Trapline system or RTLs were brought about by close cooperation between government and trappers. It was a system designed in the 1940's to eliminate destructive competition and a system whereby traditional native hunting and trapping grounds could be preserved by introducing planned fur harvesting over most of the north.

This system has proven effective over the past half century for successful regulation, monitoring and harvest, while maintaining furbearer populations which are sustainable.

The area covered by the Broad Area Plan comprises 298 registered traplines within 11 Community Trapline Sections. As many as 800 trappers have held license on these lines in any given year. As an example, total fur harvest from the East Side area for 1986-87 season was $1,256,816.

Trapping, hunting fishing and gathering for personal use is an inherent right of aboriginal peoples. Commercial fur harvesting, that is, the selling of pelts, is an important traditional occupation for many people of the East Side.

The following is the position of the MTA as a representative organization of the trappers and the fur harvest industry of Manitoba. The Manitoba Trappers Association is a predominantly volunteer organization formed in 1972 to represent the interests of the trappers in the Province of Manitoba, and the protection of the fur industry.

The Manitoba Trappers Association supports the principle of the East Side Planning Initiative process. However, the rights and privileges of trappers should not be compromised by any initiative or development that might take place on the East Side of Lake Winnipeg, or elsewhere in the province.

No infringement on the economic viability of trapping or fur harvesting should result through the creation or establishment of protected areas, federal or provincial parks.

Any development such as roads, or other linear disturbances should not negatively affect trappers, and the trappers' tenure should be honoured.

When proposals, developments or occurrences take place which may affect the integrity of the fur harvest industry, the trappers' organizations should be respected as a community of people with a common interest. In this regard they should be involved in the full process of communication and consultation before implementation of any significant development

It is the expectation of the MTA that we will continue to participate in the ongoing East Side Broad Area Plan development and implementation process. Further, that we will be able to represent the interests and concerns of trappers as the future of the East Side of Lake Winnipeg evolves.

Stuart Jansson, MTA Director Zone 1 and ESPI: ESAC/SWG/PCI
Carl Monkman, MTA Director Zone 7 and ESPI: ESAC/CWG
Cherry White, MTA Administrator and ESPI: RT/SWG

Tembec
GESTION DES RESSOURCES FORESTIÈRES
FOREST RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

PINE FALLS Operations
P.O. Box 10
Pine Falls, Manitoba R0E 1M0

Telephone : (204) 367-5200
Fax : (204) 367-2442

May 20, 2004

Peter Andre Globensky
Executive Coordinator
East Side Planning Initiative
4th Floor, 326 Broadway Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3C 0S5

Dear Peter;

Re: East Side Planning Initiative

The East Side of Lake Winnipeg Broad Area Planning Initiative (ESPI) represents a significant evolution to land use planning for Manitoba. The Province is to be commended for setting out a process to bring communities and stakeholders together to develop a plan for the East Side that provides recommendations on resource development, ecosystem protection and the needs of local residents. As one stakeholder in the ESPI area, Tembec Industries Inc. is appreciative of the inherent complexity to broad area planning as well as for the opportunity to participate in the planning process.

Forests on the East Side have provided a source of timber for the paper mill in Pine Falls for over seventy-five years. A forest management system that recognizes the need for local involvement and a balance between resource use and environmental protection has evolved over this time. It is in this regard that Tembec actively participates and supports programs like Manitoba's Protected Areas Initiative, the Manitoba Model Forest, the Canadian Boreal Initiative and a number of local work groups directed to the wise use and management of forest resources.

Tembec has developed Environmental Policies and Programs to ensure that all of the company's operations demonstrate responsible stewardship of resources and continuing improvement of our environmental performance. The Impact Zero® program for manufacturing facilities and the Forever Green® program for forest operations have been established to direct Tembec's environmental management programs. The company has also achieved ISO 14001 certification for manufacturing and forestry operations and has made a commitment for Forest Stewardship Council certification for its Manitoba operations by the end of 2005.

We understand that the forestry sector is an important contributor to the Manitoba economy and in particular, for communities in Eastern Manitoba. It is also apparent that there are opportunities to enhance local prosperity by involving these communities in new sustainable forestry developments. Our business focus in Canada includes expanding economic and forest stewardship relationships with local Aboriginal communities. Joint venture sawmill and forest management companies, while stymied by the recent softwood lumber dispute with the US, is an example off collaborative development planned for Manitoba. In the meantime, our forestry business with Aboriginal communities continues to expand.

The following comments are offered to the ESPI secretariat for consideration during the development of a planning report to the Minister of Conservation. These comments are

Commitment to the Process

The ESPI has been in development since the late 1990's and has resulted in uncertainty for communities and stakeholders over this extended development period. Important progress has been made recently, in particular with the institution of working groups early in 2004. However, we are aware that the ESPI will not be complete to the point originally contemplated because of a variety of factors. An important question is what will happen from this time forward. It is our view that the Province must continue with the ESPI to a point where future planning and development on the East Side can occur within a clear set of policies. At the same time, the Province needs to implement a process that would allow for sustainable economic development initiatives while allowing sufficient time for the completion of the ESPI.

Development Policy

The following comments are further to the previous point. A forecast outcome of the ESPI is a set of Round Table recommendations to guide resource development. It is important that clearly articulated policies regarding the development of natural resources flow from these recommendations. These statements need to go beyond broad statements of vision and mission to provide a specific framework to guide future development proponents and the regulatory agencies responsible for policy implimentation. Specific examples include a clear description of licensing processes for various activities, community involvement requirements, planning requirements and tenure options.

Pre-requisites to Economic Development

Manitoba developers and developers assessing opportunities within Manitoba require certainty in land base availability in order to make decisions on development. While the Province has identified what developments may be considered during the ongoing ESPI, the fact remains that there remains a high level of uncertainty with respect to the landbase available for development. Focused effort to complete the ESPI and the Manitoba Protected Areas Initiative is advised to see this initiative through to completion. This implies an enhanced level of resource allocation to develop and communicate goals and milestones and to carry on with the technical and consultation processes for protected area designations. A similar process is advised for the settlement of Treaty Land Entitlements identified within the East Side planning area.

Manitoba is a partner in the nomination to the United Nations for a World Heritage Site within the East Side planning area. What is meant by this nomination with respect to resource development is not specifically known. It is recommended that Manitoba play a more active role in reviewing this opportunity including an assessment of development guidelines and overall impact analysis associated with World Heritage Site designation.

Tembec's experience working in remote communities on the East Side as well as consultations conducted by the Round Table indicate that broad support exists for all-weather road development to most East Side communities. The Province's own studies show that the existing winter road system for the East Side is becoming increasingly unreliable and expensive in the face of shifting weather patterns. The likelihood of any new economic development in the northern portion of the East Side planning area is remote in the absence of all weather roads. It is recommended that Manitoba, in consultation with the residents of the East Side, take steps to develop an all weather road plan for the East Side.

Local Community Involvement

The ESPI has provided local communities with an opportunity to voice local values, priorities and concerns. An over-arching theme coming from communities on the East Side is a clear desire for greater involvement in land use decisions and developments. Manitoba needs to clearly identify how it will respond to these desires, what mechanisms will be put in place for community involvement and how these will guide developments. As an example, a forest development strategy for the Province of Saskatchewan stated in non-ambiguous terms the requirement for potential developers to partner with local (Aboriginal) communities. That Province also put in place human resource development plans for these communities. A review of initiatives in this neighboring jurisdiction would be a good first step for senior officials of this province.

Unemployment levels are well above the provincial average for the majority of communities within the East Side. A lack of local jobs coupled with a burgeoning population has resulted in increasing socio-economic hardship. Resource development and tourism are the key opportunities to create employment and an improved socio-economic condition for the East Side. We believe there is a strong local desire for resource and tourism developments that respect rights and protect the ecosystem. Manitoba needs to encourage these developments. The ESPI can provide a foundation for a broad-based initiative that speaks to these concerns. What is required is action that promotes community capacity for socio-economic development.

Tembec
GESTION DES RESSOURCES FORESTIÈRES
FOREST RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

PINE FALLS Operations
P.O. Box 10
Pine Falls, Manitoba R0E 1M0

Telephone : (204) 367-5200
Fax : (204) 367-2442

To summarize, the various groups put in place for delivery of the ESPI are nearing the end of their mandate. While the process to date has been useful in terms of bringing diverse interests together, it is also reasonable to predict that considerable uncertainty will remain after June with respect to a path forward for land use planning and developments that lead to greater prosperity for East Side residents. The Province is advised to address this uncertainty in three ways; by focusing efforts to completing the ESPI, by developing clear policies to guide development proposals and by taking a leap forward in the execution of existing programs such as the Protected Areas Initiative.

Sincerely;

V T Keenan

Vince Keenan
Divisional Forester
Tembec – Pine Falls

and ESPI Advisory Council Member

Transportation
Manitoba Naturalists Society

In considering the Issues involved in the East Side Planning Initiative a week ago I decided to get in touch with an eminent Member of my organization, the Manitoba Naturalists Society. An individual whose work has been referred to by the Secretariat representatives, on several occasions and an individual who has done extensive research on the East Side. There are actually a couple of members of the Manitoba Naturalists Society on the Round table, good and valuable choices. However, it is my opinion that the Secretariat erred in not also appointing this individual to the Round Table. Probably an error that is still not to late to rectify as the ESPI enters another phase of it's planning work. This individual is a member of the Manitoba Round Table. I didn't know there was an omnibus Round Table, but there is, and this fellow is on it. I speak of a Dr. Bill Pruitt of the Taiga Research Centre.

In checking with Bill as to his ideas regarding the issues surrounding the East Side Plan I found he had some valuable ideas that have gone unconsidered, at least is any real way, in this whole planning process. Bill suggests the real impetus to considering a road going up the East Side of Lake Winnipeg, is would serve the logging industry. That as far as today's standards go we would be much better served by an alternative method of transportation. Bill stated that with today's science there is an alternative. The alternative is Hovercraft. And this apparently is not pie in the sky thinking. Hovercraft have been around for 50 years and they are a commercially viable alternative. But probably not for logging. However, we heard from Jean Tellier in our Treaty Rights workshops, what happens when you build a road for the purposes of a single industry. She expressed that there is a reason that industry doesn't build a road that is built to the standards necessary to allow public transportation. It's not economically viable. Roads are very expensive. Expensive enough that no one can say when this road will be built. It is pretty clear that it won't be built without Federal/Provincial agreement. It is not clear, at all, that there will ever be Provincial/Federal agreement.

The potential economies of Hovercraft could make the difference as to whether or not transportation would come to the East Side and certainly should make a difference as to when. At least this warrants thorough consideration. This is something I would see as private run with a subsidy from the government, in lieu of the government building a road. Should they decide at some point to build the road, then the subsidy could end and the Hovercraft could be an interim provision. Likely the road would never be built.

There may be some question as to how Hovercraft would operate in the terrain of the East Side. I think the Alaska Hovercraft printout (http://www.lynden.com/ahv) indicates that the Hovercraft would have no difficulty operating in the East Side. Again at least this would seem to warrant thorough consideration.

There are quite a variety of Hovercraft available and the full range of specific needs can be met. I refer you to print outs from Hummingbird Transportation (http://www.hummingbirdhovercraft.com).

Hovercraft are something that have many success stories in Scandinavian countries and Europe as well as all other parts of the world. I refer you to print outs from Hovertravel (http://www.hovertravel.co.uk) and Aérotrain et Naviplanes (http://aernav.free.fr/Index.html).

Consideration should be given to what Hovercraft up the East Side would mean to tourism. This would certainly be a world class attraction. Especially in conjunction with United Nations Biosphere Reserve status.

And perhaps most importantly, when the "What we Heard" document was compiled, 25% of the statements expressed concern about the social and cultural threats posed by a road. Use of Hovercraft would give the people of the East Side maximum ability to monitor if not pretty much control what comes and goes from their area.

Les McCann
Manitoba Naturalists Society

http://www.lynden.com/ahv

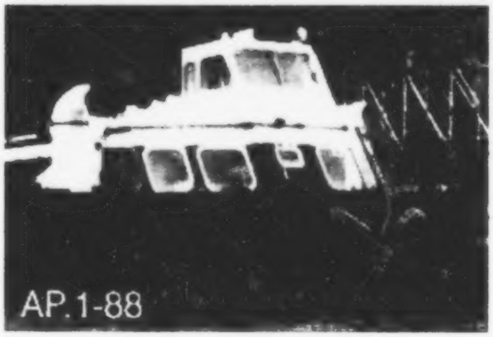
ALASKA HOVERCRAFT

When you need to move cargo or personnel over land or water, **Alaska Hovercraft** has the answer. **Alaska Hovercraft** sells and leases commercial-size hovercraft.

LACV-30

Alaska Hovercraft was built on the principles of service to the customer and are dedicated to providing a marine vessel that is environmentally friendly and safe. **Alaska Hovercraft** also offers a full range of maintenance, parts and customer support.

You can purchase a hovercraft-or maybe leasing is a better option. **Alaska Hovercraft** has the *Bare Boat Lease* if you're interested in using just the hovercraft. Or consider the *Full Time Lease* for a turn-key approach-supplying the crew, maintenance, parts and fuel on a per day or week basis.



AP.1-88

Each vessel is U.S. Coast Guard certified for commercial use. Choose from two models appropriate for your requirements:

The **AP.1-88** can transport up to 80 passengers.
The **LACV-30** model is a fully amphibious high-speed cargo carrier. This 30-ton payload hovercraft has been proven in operations over Arctic ice, desert sand, and open water.

HOME **AP.1-88** **LACV-30** **EMAIL US**

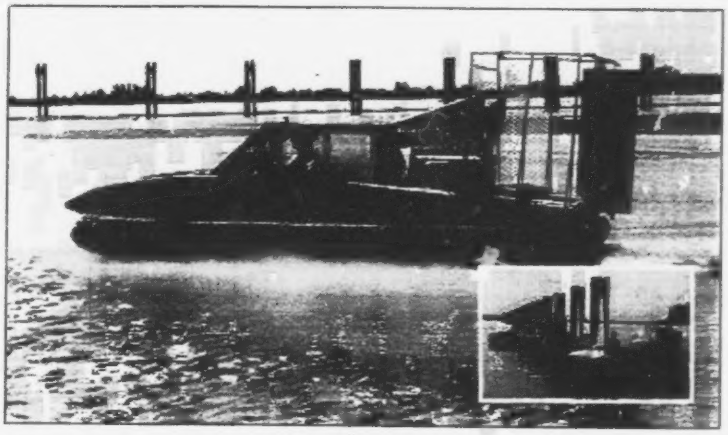
ALASKA HOVERCRAFT VENTURES

6441 South Airpark Place
Anchorage, Alaska 99502-1809
Phone: (907) 245-1931
Fax: (907) 245-1744
Email: genmgr@ahv.lynden.com

Copyright © 1996-2003 Lynden Incorporated

http://www.hummingbirdhovercraft.com

Hummingbird Hovercraft Transportation



Hovercraft are a unique and efficient solution to some problems and can be invaluable. Hovercraft may also be entirely inappropriate to your requirement. Good advice, in this regard, however expensive, is still much cheaper than an ill advised hovercraft venture.

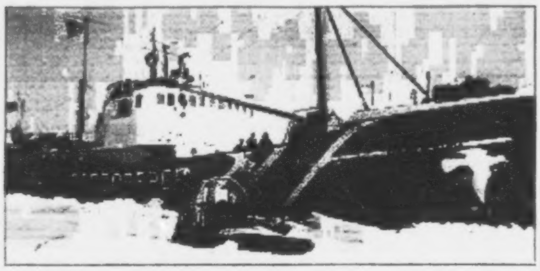
Consulting

General

- Buying or need a hovercraft.
- What is the requirement?
- Private/Commercial
- Country (for regulatory purposes)?
- Payload?
- Speed/Weather?
- Passengers/Freight?
- Alternatives?
- Availability/Cost?

Expeditions (Utilizing Hovercraft)

- What's the requirement?
- What's the law?
- Environment?



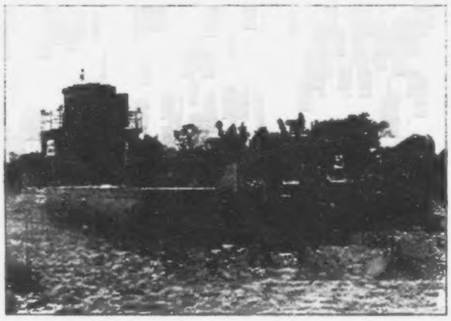
- Where?
- They can sometimes go where
- more conventional machinery cannot.

Route Proving

Try it before you buy it.

Hovercraft are not cheap and craft capabilities vary widely.

Hovercraft may not be the answer.



Operations

Somebody could do it for you. - or not - as economy dictates. If the requirement is for a limited period, it may not be worth your while to purchase or operate this equipment.

Capt. Colin Shew

Click on images to enlarge

Ship Master & Dynamically Supported Craft Captain

Hummingbird Transportation
L.Colin Shew
email

http://www.hovertravel.co.uk

HOVERTRAVEL Tel. (01983) 811000

2

Home | Timetables | Fares | Information | Hoverbus | Hoverparcels

SPRING & SUMMER OFFERS

PLANET ICE | FLAMINGO PARK | OSBORNE HOUSE

THE DOWNS TOUR | STEAM RAILWAY

Welcome to HOVERTRAVEL

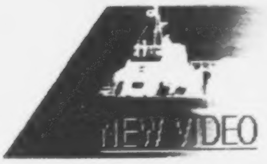
Hovertravel operates a fast and frequent Hovercraft service between Southsea (Portsmouth) and Ryde on the Isle of Wight

Established in 1965 Hovertravel have now carried over 18 million passengers across the Solent

10 Reasons to Hovertravel

1. Easy Access
2. Excellent Parking Facilities
3. High Frequency Crossings
4. Speed [illegible]
5. Bus Link to [illegible]
6. Range of Ticketing Options
7. Optional Booking Service
8. Fast [illegible] High Speed Parcels Service
9. [illegible]
10. [illegible]

IN UNDER 10 MINUTES !



NEW VIDEO

News @ HOVERTRAVEL

D.

60m

Fre

ent

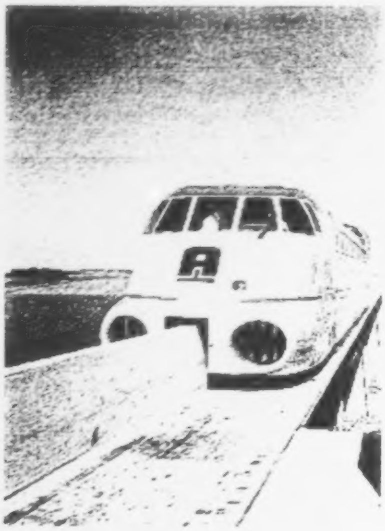
Ji

About Hovertravel [illegible]

[illegible]

L'Aérotrain
et
Les Naviplanes

La sculpture "Aérotrain" de Georges Saulterre sera installée début juin 2004
à Gometz la Ville !



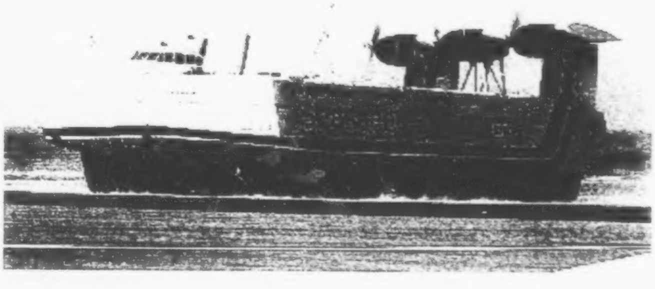
- Jean Bertin
- Le coussin d'air
- L'Aérotrain
- Les Naviplanes
- Galerie photos
- Témoignage
- Quelques adresses
- Commentaires et questions

English Version

Ce site a été créé le 28 janvier 1998

Dernière mise à jour :

28 mai 2004



AEROTRAIN
0,80
REPUBLIQUE FRANCAISE

x|

Hovercraft
[Join Now | Ring Hub | Random | **<< Prev | Next >>**]

Wabanong Anishinaabe Trappers Association

Recommendations to the ESPI Round Table

Approved on June 17, 2004

The WATA was incorporated on July 14th 2003 to promote Aboriginal Trapper Rights on the East side of Lake Winnipeg and to protect the ecological integrity of its member's trap lines. WATA members are concerned with any proposed development activity on the East side of Lake Winnipeg with special focus on the trap line areas. The following recommendations were agreed upon at the June 17th meeting of the WATA.

1. Existing obligations under the Treaties must be met before any planning process is engaged. The Manitoba Government should make a good faith effort to finalize outstanding Treaty Land Entitlement and meet existing Treaty obligations with First Nations communities and Trappers on the East Side of Lake Winnipeg.

2. The Manitoba Government and industry should make a clear written statement that no Treaty or Aboriginal Rights can be abrogated.

3. Government and Industry should have a written set of consultation guidelines, policies or protocols regarding development proposals that may infringe on Treaty and or Aboriginal Rights before consulting with Aboriginal communities and Trappers. These consultation guidelines, policies or protocols must be incorporated into the planning process for the East Side of Lake Winnipeg.

4. That a Protocol Agreement be developed between the government of Manitoba and all First Nation communities and Trappers on the East Side of Lake Winnipeg and that this agreement will become an integral part of any planning process.

5. Governments, industry and crown corporations must recognize, respect, and honour local agreements between Trappers and their traplines as this is imperative to creating greater control and participation for Trappers.

6. Government should support the creation of an East Side Lake Winnipeg Trappers Council that will participate in any land use/development planning process.

7. It must be recognized that Aboriginal Peoples and each of the First Nation communities on the Eastside of Lake Winnipeg have the right to manage, plan, control and protect the natural resources within their traditional territories and traplines.

8. Government, industry and Aboriginal communities should work together to protect First Nations culturally significant areas, traplines, sacred sites, ceremonial, historical sites and burial sites without disclosing the exact location. The goal is to protect these important sites from the damage and other impacts caused by development.

9. Community-based land use planning, including trapline studies, by First Nation communities on the Eastside of Lake Winnipeg should be completed prior to any large-scale development activities commencing within the ESPI planning area.

10. Governance systems within Aboriginal communities must support and respect traditional activities, such as hunting, fishing and trapping in any land use process.

11. The Manitoba and Federal Governments must support and promote the First Nations Accord World Heritage Site nomination.

12. First Nation communities are solely responsible for identifying their traditional resource territories.

13. Additional lands within Aboriginal Traditional Territories must be set aside or protected to exercise First Nations Constitutional Rights for traditional uses, hunting, fishing and trapping.

14. Government and Industry should assist in providing resources and funding to enable Aboriginal communities on the Eastside of Lake Winnipeg to undertake or complete Traditional Land Use and Occupancy Studies within their traditional territories before any large-scale development occurs.

15. All First Nations communities in the ESPI Planning Area must be provided with resources & money (from Federal, Provincial and other sources) to develop land use plans for their traditional use areas.

16. Governments must provide funding for or develop more human capacity building initiatives and programs to realize and participate in the full potential of activities in regions and territories.

17. Governments must enhance and support more effective skills training programs for First Nation in the region as part of overall employment strategy. This funding should not be tied to any future large-scale development proposals.

18. Government must enhance and support capacity development for communities to acquire information and the resources necessary for effective land use planning in their traditional territories, and create an educational/training program targeted specifically to Aboriginal youth to enable them to deal with environmental and resource issues in their home communities.

19. Trappers, in consultation with grassroots community members, must be engage in any planning processes for their communities.

20. Government must share a percentage of the royalties generated from existing large-scale industrial development in the region with the First Nation members, including Trappers.

21. Government must support and continue implementing decisions and activities with respect to the First Nations/Manitoba Government MOU on Protected Areas Accord.

PRESENTATION BY WASAGAMACK FIRST NATION YOUTH CONCERNING THE EAST SIDE LAKE WINNIPEG PLANNING INITIATIVE

We, the members of the Senior Four class at George Knott School in Wasagamack, have profound concerns about the proposed East Side Lake Winnipeg Planning Initiative. Our concerns are based on our own experiences and those of our Elders, who have been living and working on these lands for all of their lives.

For a great many years we have heard many horror stories about Manitoba Hydro's power dams and the flooding of thousands of square kilometres of pristine wilderness. That huge project destroyed a way of life, not only for the animals, but also for hundreds of trappers and their families who trapped, hunted, and obtained their medicines from those sacred lands.

Our ancestors were born, raised, and buried on those sacred lands. Hence we (the youth) do **NOT** wish to participate in any future development schemes that will repeat the past errors of Manitoba Hydro. They made a great variety of promises and people waited for decades to obtain a very small amount of money through their court settlements. Our blood relatives were not treated properly - - with respect and justice.

In the forests, some First Nations have lost their camp grounds due to the cutting down of trees. Forest companies should not be allowed to cut down forest that is near these camp grounds. Therefore you, Honourable Ministers, can easily understand why we, the next generation of inhabitants of these lands, do *not* wish to live through more horror stories and terrible experiences all over again!

The forest is our tradition, where we get our food and warmth for our houses, trapping, hunting, and fishing. Areas where we go to trap, hunt, and fish should be designated as protected areas. These areas will be protected by the community, with the support of others.

Island Lake consists of four reserves: Garden Hill, Red Sucker Lake, St. Theresa Pt. and Wasagamack. A review of the Trapping Activity map developed by the Ministry of Conservation shows that Island Lake has the biggest of the twelve trapping areas on the East Side of Lake Winnipeg. Trapping has been has still is a big part of First Nations culture and heritage. Island Lake should therefore have a very significant say in what should be done with the land. First Nation peoples should only be represented by the Native peoples of each community, including both members of the Native youth population and the Elders.

We have a great number of questions and concerns which need to be dealt with very carefully and adequately in order to prevent the destruction of our way of life, now and for future generations. These are some of our questions:

- What impact would any development have upon fish, moose, deer, rabbit, bear, muskrat, beaver, etc.?

- What impact would so-called development have on forest habitats, spawning grounds, migration cycles of caribou to calving sites and to our way of life - - that is, our homes, communities, cemeteries, ancient burial grounds, trap lines, and so on?

- What problems would tourism, which might be associated with an all-weather road, cause regarding the spread of: drug and alcohol usage, violence and vandalism, pollution, depletion of animals due to poaching and trophy hunting, etc.?

Our problem is that any thought of future "development" includes Wasagamack. Eventually, if and when industrial development comes to the community, the culture may vanish, the language and traditional teachings gone in the name of greed. For many reasons, we believe that the reason for bringing the East Side Lake Winnipeg Broad Area Planning Initiative into this area is due to greed. However, money will never be as rich as culture. We do not want Wasagamack turned into a park.

From: Brett Sokoloski [bms@mb.sympatico.ca]
Sent: Thursday, July 01, 2004 9:15 AM
Subject: ESPI Open House - Late Exit Survay

Thank You for the opportunity, but do to the lengthy investigation and limited time this is a late response and of now little concern. Anyhow even if it is attached to the final I will be enthused! Now for the Survey:

1.
Issues: More Unionized Jobs, Cheaper Food Costs, Stop Urban Sprawl, Faster Hospital Services/ Health Care, Energy Distribution, Costs, Pollution. Environment Protection/Recycling (Ontario)

Opportunities:
Larger or more airports.
Fish Processing Plant / Fish Farms.
Satellite High Speed Internet Access.
Eco-Tourism / Tek Mapping
Value - Added to existing resource extraction's.
Renewable Electric Production (Solar, Wind, Geothermal).
Recycling - Clean Air, Water, Land, Food.
Increase Protected Areas (with Changes).
www.boreal.ca/

2. Issues: Protection, Consultations with Ontario, Land & Water Destruction with "Corridors", Energy Pollution, Mining Pollution, Airport Pollution, Eco-Tourism Pollution, Clean Air, Water, Land, Food, Health Care, Protected Area Usage.

Opportunites: Tek Mapping, Solar, Wind, Geothermal lowering energy production costs, Save the Land, Eco-Tourism, Recycling, Value-Added Resource Products, Clean Air, Water, Land, Food, Health Care, More Protected Areas, Fish Farms

3. n/a

4. n/a

Thank you for your time and concern.
Brett Sokoloski

From: Dave Rannard
Sent: Monday, June 14, 2004 10:03 AM
Subject: East Side Planning Initiative

In response to the open house and the request for comments I provide you with the following.

Question 1

Providing economic opportunities for the communities on the East Side. Ecotourism, timber products and non-timber products of the forest, lodge and guiding development respecting hunting, fishing and non-consumptive uses is very important. Divisions and personal interests within the communities concerning economic development appear to be a key issue. Road and access development is a major requirement, electrification, proper salvage disposal and water purification is primary in the development of the area. Access to employment opportunities and as much secondary and tertiary manufacturing within the area and close to communities as possible is very important.

Question 2

Preservation and a roadless area will not sustain communities. As noted above, road and access development is a major requirement, electrification, proper salvage disposal and water purification is primary in the development of the area and protecting the environmental health of the area. Careful, integrated planning and use (both consumptive and non-consumptive) of the resources should preserve the environmental health of the area.

Question 3

Integrated planning and management of all uses to be made of the area is paramount. The area contains a wealth of renewable and sustaining resources that should be used. Careful planning and use of those resources is imperative. Use of one resource should not compromise other resources even though the others might or might not be used in a consumptive manner.

Question 4

Get on with the development of the area! Discussion and planning can go on for ever! It should be recognized you will not satisfy everyone with whatever plan you end up with. Nor, will some, perhaps all persons be satisfied with all components of the plan. Some mistakes may ultimately be made regardless of how much planning is done. There is nothing wrong with this and adaptive management. If the Winnipeg Electric Company had not made some decisions, some perhaps not as well thought out as they might have been, we might still be using candles to read by at night.

I hope that these few comments are constructive in development and management of the east side of Lake Winnipeg.

Best regards,
Dave Rannard

From: Wilderness.Committee@web1.support1.net
Sent: Monday, June 14, 2004 6:56 PM
Subject: Electronic ESPI Questionnaire

1. What do you believe are the important issues and opportunities that may influence the East Side Planning Area's ability to improve future community economic conditions and quality of life for people?

Response: First Nations control over natural resources

2. What do you feel are the key issues and opportunities that need to be addressed to preserve the future environmental health of the East Side Planning Area?

Response: the key issue is who will control the use of natural resources in the area. i think that local control of "development" will be far better for the area in terms of the environment than corporate managed resource extraction.

3. How do you think the future development and use of the East Side Planning Area's resources should be planned and managed?

Response: I think that First Nations' traditional territories should be managed primarily by First Nations themselves. At present, management of land beyond reserves is based on First Nations' input only minimally-I tihnk this should be radically changed.

4. Are there other issuers that need to be identified for further discussion?

Response:

4

Appendix 8.4

Community Reports

East Side Planning Initiative Community Visits

September 2003 to January 2004

What We Heard

Final Report By Community

Response to East Side Planning Initiative Community Visits

September 2003 to January 2004

Communities Visited and Groups Invited to Participate:

Groups:
FN – First Nations
MMF – Manitoba Metis Federation
NACC – Northern Association of Community Councils
ESPI – East Side Planning Initiative
ESRT or Round Table – East Side Round Table

Communities	Page
Berens River FN, NACC, MMF	1
Bissett NACC	3
Bloodvein FN	5
Bunibonibee Cree Nation	6
Garden Hill FN, MMF	9
God's Lake FN, NACC	12
Hollow Water FN	14
Island Lake NACC	15
Little Black River FN	16
Little Grand Rapids FN	18
Little Grand Rapids NACC	20
Manigotagan NACC, MMF	20
Manto Sipi Cree Nation	21
Matheson Island / Loon Straits / Princess Harbour NACC	22
Norway House Cree Nation	23
Norway House NACC	24
Pauingassi FN	26
Pine Dock NACC	27
Powerview and local MMF	28
Red Sucker Lake FN, NACC, MMF	30
Sagkeeng FN (North Shore)	31
Sagkeeng FN (South Shore)	35
Seymourville / Aghaming NACC.	37
St. Theresa Point FN	38
Wasagamack FN	42

What We Heard

Berens River First Nation - NACC, MMF

- We would like to see the agendas of the advisory groups and East Round Table meetings of upcoming events and presentations, especially with respect to the areas of concern. We want to be notified and informed. We want the minutes of the meetings to be circulated to the community.
- Protected areas need to be revisited. The Poplar River Protected Area includes some lands, which are part of Berens River traditional territory. Because Berens River was never consulted on this, its territory should be removed from the protected area.
- We as a community are concerned with Lake Winnipeg water quality. The algae, smell and water levels are all concerns for us.
- River quality is threatened by activities that are still occurring in Ontario. What happens in Ontario will ultimately affect the Watershed here in Manitoba. We need to know what is happening in Ontario.
- We need to know what Manitoba Hydro has in store for us. We cannot create an effective community plan without knowing where the hydro-line is going to be placed.
- Hydro maintains its transmission lines by using chemicals to kill plants. Imagine what that will do to our trees and animals. We would like to know what type of chemical they will be using and have any existing studies forwarded to us.
- Hydro lines and roads will destroy our traditional way of life. How are the young people going to survive?
- Are they going to put the lines in the north, but distribute the electricity to the south?
- The cost of hydro in the north shows we are not getting our share of the resources sold.
- We will not be able to tap into the hydro lines.
- Are there any studies of the effects of transmission lines on humans and the environment? If so, we would like to see them.

- The literature provided does not address how this process might affect treaty rights. Should speak
- more about constitutional treaty rights, protected areas.
- How will this plan affect outstanding Treaty Land Entitlements? What has been happening with respect to the TLE process? How much Crown Land should we be granted?
- We do not condemn the ESPI process; we just do not have a position in place as yet.
- There is no protocol to consult with First Nations.
- Are there any studies being done on the effects of dams and the associated lake quality and lake level changes? These factors affect our livelihoods. What about studies on the rivers, river levels and river water quality? Also we need to know the effects of control structures on our water systems. Our water has gone down 4 feet and it is affecting our fishermen.
- Hydro should consult if they have a plan in place.
- Do you come out and help us with an action plan to stop it development if we do not want a hydro line here?
- If the Trappers Association make a presentation, will you hear it?
- Trapline boundaries should be the boundaries for planning.
- An all-weather road would effect Treaty #5. Right now there is no money coming this way for road development and maintenance of existing network. Available dollars are not reaching into the northern areas.
- If a road goes through we need to get our lands back for ecotourism. We are not getting our share.
- We have 3rd world roads here.
- We need economic development; government is stalling development.
- Safety on Lake Winnipeg is an issue as people have died crossing the lake.
- Do not want more consultations – takes too long.
- Need to make recommendations immediately - be preventive.

- Berens River recommended the ESRT advise the government that it would like to see Rupertsland Constituency cut in half.

- Our children's education service is below provincial teaching standards.

- Our business is presently going to Pine Dock, then Gimli and Selkirk. They value our business.

Bissett – NACC

- Include all East Side communities in one meeting.

- Caribou habitat protection important.

- Economic development and environmental protection processes need to work together in a balanced way.

- Wanipigow River Protected Area has allowed mature trees to fall into River and is destroying the river quality. If trees are allowed to be cut, the economic gain is met and the river is managed. Protectionism measures applied by Parks Manitoba may do more harm than good to the river and river areas.

- Land allocation methods for specific purposes by the province are not an acceptable practice.

- Why should we be interested in mining activity when the broad area plan is going to prevent such?

- Land regulations contravene Mining Act.

- Bissett is a mining town and residents believe there is mining potential for the area.

- Mining is the lifeblood of Bissett. Exploration needs to continue.

- Government bureaucracy is causing problems with respect to mining activity. To keep a claim valid, one has to show some kind of development or be in violation of the Mining Act and loose the claim. In many cases, people have been refused permits to travel forestry roads to their claim.

- Government must allow claims in the area. The government supports the community, however not in the way the community wants them to.

- Nopiming and Atikaki Parks restrict mining development.

- First Nation Communities are getting all the traplines and pulp potential. They have a federal voice, larger than ours.

- It appears that the message that Manitoba is not open for business is getting outside to the industry. American mining investors are going elsewhere when they learn the Hayes River will be set aside as a heritage river. How will this affect future mining exploration activity?

- Residents want to benefit from mining and want to stop restrictions imposed by park regulations and legislation.

- Nopiming Park was originally a multi-use park. Now you cannot consider it a multipurpose park due to restrictions. Recreation activities and development are causing problems.

- The province should sell Crown lands for development by local land developers. I am specifically referring to a piece of land, which is not pristine, but on which other activities used to take place but no longer do. All that remains now is a bunch of run down buildings. To allow local residents to make use of such lands is sustainable development in my opinion.

- Trust issues are non-existent with government initiatives (i.e. lodges and cabin development). Government did not follow the recommendations of the community in the past, why should we trust them now?

- Access to existing education and training programs needed to help secure future for the community.

- Tourism does not benefit Bissett. The road through Nopiming bypasses Bissett.

- Government has negatively impacted Caribou when they developed the road through Nopiming. Road development has affected the Owl Lake Caribou herd (Black Lake calving grounds).

- A Canadian Heritage River designation impedes mining exploration.

- Who is going to replace the vacated mining representative position on the ESRT.

- The Prospectors and Developers Association should be represented on the East Side Advisory Committee.

- Pave road from Manigotagan and finish straightening road to Bissett.

- What is happening with the Cat Lake to Red Lake Road?
- Jobs are needed in Bissett. Some have to leave by spring for work.

Bloodvein First Nation

- Safety is a concern.
- Can we access information on the Internet?
- We have to fight for our land. I see that in process for East Side area.
- Community is all for economic development.
- The planning process should be with First Nation's people directly because it impacts First Nations directly.
- We need to know who the stakeholders are and what their plans are in all of this.
- We need to do more as a community to protect treaty lands.
- We need to develop our own plan.
- Elders and youth must be involved to voice concerns in our community.
- We need protected area for our traditional lands.
- We want total control of the management of forestry and mining here.
- We do not think the people on the ESRT represent us. I strongly recommend considering one of the communities like Poplar River or Hollow Water to represent us. They live on the East Side.
- What are the hidden agendas on economic development?
- If we tell you what we want, what guarantees are there that we will get what we want?
- We are working on several proposals that involve our traditional land and we are asking for total control.

- Does the area that Tembec is planning to cut involve Bloodvein, or is it part of the planning area? We want to do the cutting ourselves, not Tembec. We are in a process of looking at deals like the one Pikangikum has with their Whitefeather Initiative and co-management model.

- Are they going to hurt the rivers if the road comes?

- How much space will the Native people have?

- We are preparing for the all weather road by training our people how to use the heavy equipment needed too build.

- We are not a stand-still community; we are looking forward to young people gaining employment.

- Most often people out there come here to tell us what's best for us, but we live here, not them. They come in and take over and say it is in our best interest. They have not walked in our moccasins so to speak. The time frame is too long, it take too much time and in the mean time the government have their way to control it till they get what they want.

Bunibonibee Cree Nation

- We need to do something for our young people. We need to look in the long term.

- We need to plan what we are doing in an orderly fashion.

- Concerned that corporations come in and ruin a First Nation community and the First Nation doesn't get anything from it. For example, First Nations currently do not benefit from harvest of timber resources. Communities must benefit if there is development, not the individual but the whole community.

- An all-weather road would cut through many traplines and trappers would not get anything from it.

- Must plan right with traditional knowledge. Must carefully consider how development takes place. Have to consider how we are part of the land.

- Trapline regulations pretty strict - size of a cabin etc, cost of permits to build etc. Regulations quite an issue here. Too many regulations and why are there regulations on our land?

- Not happy with 100-foot set back from water bodies.

- A 200' x 200' area for trapper's cabins is not realistic. There should be more flexibility for types of traps to be used.

- Government regulations prohibit using trapline/cabins for rental purposes. Regulations should support trappers.

- One of the questions I have, one thing promised to us, First Nations have access to live off the land so how come there are regulations e.g. hunting? After all is done what is going to become of the process and plan?

- Trapping is an issue of sharing resources again. This should be part of the issue for the Round Table – so we can maintain our lifestyle. Trapping and its regulations need to be addressed in the plan

- Gain must be distributed to the community as a whole, not to individuals.

- Teach youth how to grow trees and about renewing the forest and fishery resource. Learn how to develop and operate businesses to create a good living for residents.

- Happy to see things moving ahead through the process.

- Must share resources and FN must benefit from them.

- Thankful that people are focusing on our concerns. Often people call on us for work and we do most of the hard work. In the end however, we are thrown aside. It is good to have people who are concerned about us.

- Why can someone own our traditional land? I worked for long time in fisheries and for 5 months could make a living fishing. Prices of fish not viable now. We need a subsidy program for fishing.

- Concerns were expressed about a burial ground threatened by development. There are 3 graves and it should be marked on a map.

- People who come up here like mining companies, need to bring more money into the community and share the wealth.

- Land use is very important.

- Timber is the most important resource to retain for the community. Mining activity is expensive to pursue.

- Trapping regulations not meeting our needs and don't make sense.

- More meetings are needed.

- Were there studies done for resource assessments, land analysis, community development, economic development and traditional history?

- Hydro promised money ($8000.00 per trapper) to trappers who were hit by the development but they did not follow through. I get the same impression about the round table.

- Concerns about hunting. When an area becomes developed there is a boundary placed around it and you can't hunt there. Can we go hunting and hunt where we want? The plan has to allow us to be able to go in and hunt where we want, even if the area is developed.

- Concerns about third parties coming in and using our traditional areas and then we have a problem negotiating with them on land use. Negotiating can take a very long time.

- We are encouraged by the chief and council having this evening.

- Interesting idea – teaching our young people to grow trees so they can re-grow what is taken out, same with fish – need to target the young people.

- An all-weather road has all sorts of advantages including training for heavy equipment operators.

- Oxford Lake was closed for fishing due to high transportation costs to market. We were throwing away our catch because there was no transportation to market. It is a waste of time, energy and fish. Pickerel is the only viable species now and it is three times the work. Need to build a road to transport fish out. Advantage of road – transportation the fish, shopping trip, etc, - all weather road is the answer. On the other side more influences coming in and not all good influences. We need to be aware of that.

- Important that FN gets the first chance to get employment.

- There was mention of stakeholders. Northern Stores, MTS, MB Hydro are stakeholders. Are they trying to maximize benefits for the communities – what are they doing for the communities?

- If a trapper looses a cabin in a fire is there a way that he can be reimbursed for it?

- This information should go to the schools for study and response.

- Need to look at funding for informing the community of the process.

- It is important to get a community person hired soon because election is coming in November.

Garden Hill First Nation – MMF

- Youth are not aware of the Treaties, their cultural traditions, the old way of life and survival on the land. Government should provide funding to train youth to learn about Aboriginal tradition and culture.
- Loss of traditional way of life and children being taught to follow dominant way of life.
- Fish are being depleted from the lakes and information is not being shared on fish management strategies, if any are planned or exist.
- Health is a major issue, particularly diabetes. Government should work more closely with northern communities in the area to address health concerns.
- High price of goods and services makes it difficult if not impossible to purchase healthy foods such as fresh fruit and vegetables.
- Government needs to respect hunting and other rights, if parks, which include traditional hunting areas, are deemed to be set aside as protected areas.
- In the past, the province did not consult with trappers regarding government actions impacting on traditional trapping/hunting grounds.
- Concern raised because of the lack of community members at the meeting. Another community meeting recommended allowing for more involvement from the rest of the community.
- Do not talk about a hydro line before a commitment to an all-weather road as the community cannot continue to be at an economic disadvantage due to an absence of all-weather road access.
- We see the pros and cons of roads to communities. The social impact has to be addressed when we see a road coming into Garden Hill. A lot of elders have expressed they do not want a road because of the destruction of life from alcohol and drugs.
- It is critical to understand and be aware of the many sites of historical and cultural significance before proceeding with roads or hydro.

- We have heard from Hydro before. They came to us, but did not give us enough time to respond. You have to give us more time. There is a lack of information provided by Hydro for the community to adequately respond or participate. We do not want a poor consultation process. We do not want this to be like the Hydro process.

- Development has to be shared with the people of Garden Hill.

- There is a need for more information on the ESPI process.

- Concern about mining at Twin Lake and if the community could get government to involve them in meaningful consultation before permitting mining in their traditional territory.

- Possibility of constructing a larger airport on a cost shared basis.

- Government can promise anything but not deliver because in the end government will do what they want.

- There is a lack of trust between communities and government.

- There is concern about a proposed road which can be built from North of God's Narrows connecting Northern Ontario.

- Pros' and cons of an all weather road discussed - would lower the price of goods and transportation.

- Communities will need an analysis on what impacts an all-weather road will have on them. Elders have expressed some negative thoughts a road would bring to the community, such as alcohol, drugs and gang related problems. Government in the end will go the cheapest route.

- Manitoba Hydro held a consultation process on its hydro Bipole III transmission line but shared only what they wanted and expected the community to learn everything on that day. Time will be needed for the community to absorb the information and get it out to all the members in order to fully participate in this process.

- A suggestion was made to include all East Side communities in one meeting.

- Maps don't show territorial lines due to lack of funding and shortage of technical people. Need for technical people to assist the community in this process.

- Lack of telephone lines is a real problem. People are not able to use the phone between 5:00 pm to midnight. This causes further problems regarding emergencies.

- If the community does not become involved in the process, they will be losing an excellent opportunity to participate in planning and development activities.

- Community is concerned of the short timeline.

- Where is the funding coming from.

- What are the next steps to this process?

- Economic development and environmental protection processes need to work together in a balanced way.

- We are not fully aware of the Treaty anymore. The younger generations have not been educated about the Treaty and the significance of our Treaty at the time it was signed.

- Years ago the white man put up a sawmill here and took all the best trees, we did not care for sustaining them then. Then he came for the fish. There are still trees and fish, but the best are now gone.

- The younger generation is not learning the traditional ways. Our youth only correspond with what they learn from a white dominant society. Our sickness is worse today (diabetes) because we have lost some of our traditional ways. If we dropped a young person off in the bush today he would not know how to survive, to make a fire, to make a bed. We need funding to retain our traditional ways and livelihood. We have to retain our traditional ways to heal ourselves.

- Prices are too high to afford the goods that we once could afford.

- Years ago the Island Lake Tribal Council talked about co-management of resources.

- You must be aware that there is a park being proposed in the area of the Wasagamack First Nation. The local trappers do not want this. There also is mining at Twin Lake. The trappers at Red Sucker Lake did not agree to this. They also are planning a road. Can the people at Red Sucker stop this legally. The people there have not been consulted. Is this the way it should be? Does the province have a responsibility to consult?

- There was a process with Treaty land selections where we identified our traditional lands, and sacred and cultural spots. The round table does not have this information. This must be integrated, but we never had the money like you have to record all of this and create fancy maps. We need money to identify and map where the important sites and lands are. We are short of technical skills. Your community coordinators cannot do this alone.

- The community must have a general Board meeting to discuss this East Side plan.

- In 1972 a report by the community on all-weather roads was sent to the government.

- The people of Garden Hill need to hear from other communities. Why not get a few people from the 16 communities to get together to see if there are shared values. We need to understand one another. Recommend two or three from each community.

- In the past, government projects (i.e. MTS) have not included extra funding to First Nations. You have a few people, but need more people involved in the planning process. You have to understand another reality. There is no money here, there are no jobs. Up north we have vast resources, but the money and the jobs benefit the south (Winnipeg).

- Do you know how hard it is to get a telephone line between Garden Hill and Winnipeg from 5-11 at night because all the lines are jammed (internet users). Think about this from a medical perspective. There are ten thousand people up here.

- There are two TV stations here. You have to broadcast on both to touch all the people. It was only broadcast on one so you have missed many of our people.

- We want an all-weather road because we see things will be cheaper for us to but, but we are also concerned for our youth because this road will make it easier to bring in booze and drugs.

God's Lake First Nation - NACC

- The East Side Planning Initiative is entirely new to us and more information is needed. Who are the 22 people on the round table? Where are they from? How were they appointed? Is there a timeline for this process?

- Our rights are treaty driven. How can the process affirm treat rights when the Natural Resources Transfer Agreement is a contradiction to them? We have to educate mainstream society about our treaties.

- Government has a hidden agenda. When we ask the province to address our needs they say that they are not responsible. First Nation people should not be considered a federal responsibility.

- We have to consider the human factor in this process. Our regional needs have to be considered; health and education. For example, we need a regional hospital that is central to communities such as in God's Lake narrows.

- We have concerns about the environment and have been fighting with the province about cleaning up the old transmission line to an old mine on Elk Island. There is about 50 miles of wire just left on site. The government tells me they have no funds so how can they make this process work if they can't even undertake one little mine clean-up project. I don't know who else to talk to.

- When traditional areas are referred to by governments they think it is a trapline. Our ancestors come from Ontario and our traditional area is also in Ontario. It is not only ours but belongs to other First Nations.

- We are not opposed to an all-weather road as it would help alleviate the high cost-of-living for First Nation people. We would like to see road access to communities before hydro lines go through. What are other communities saying about this?

- Governments don't want to listen and probably won't listen to this plan either. For example, cottagers – governments would soon listen to them.

- We would like our road and human issues dealt with before Hydro.

- I can't see that there is anything wrong with an all-weather road. We would have benefits such as forestry and tourism.

- The community would want an east-west road connection. Use the winter road alignment so as not to disturb any more landscape.

- The timber company in The Pas has a license for cutting in our area.

- Governments do not consult with us about mining and claims until after the fact.

- We have to have training for our youth to prepare them for future opportunities such as resource development that may result from the East Side plan.

- Community contact positions should be full-time.
- Provincial government is holding up our treaty land entitlement – they should move a little faster.

Hollow Water First Nation

- Does the government or industry consult with the people or just Chief & Council?
- Do the Chief and Council have to be present for there to be consultation?
- What would happen if the recommendations conflict with the community plans?
- Does anyone in the round table membership oppose development?
- Who makes the final decision on the recommendations?
- What is community participation?
- There is a need to have something in place besides just community forum and working group. There is a need to go house to house.
- Is this consultation or an information session?
- Information should be provided beforehand to facilitate preparation and discussion. Provide information by all available means.
- Is there already a plan?
- Development already exists. What is left to be decided?
- We need a map to indicate traditional uses at Hollow Water and include Black Island.
- Hollow Water could provide a land use plan to round table.
- How can the province come in and provide permits on the Hollow Water River for cottages?
- Is Black Island included in the planning area?

- When did this process start? Was there nothing before that? Shouldn't the community have been involved in 1999? Why did it take so long to get to the communities? This should have begun with the communities.

- What about traditional territories beyond treaty (reserve) lands?

- Traditional lands are being taken away. All this is predetermined. There is a lot of skepticism about this process.

- What type of agreements can the community get from this process?

- Will government put community interests before Hydro?

- Will there be funding and technical support for community participation at the same level as the RT?

- Will there be a set amount of funding?

- What is the completion date?

- A presentation was made on the need to create a local advisory board. It was emphasized that this is an opportunity that the community must seize now because if it does nothing it would lose an opportunity. We want to be involved in benefits, partner and training for anything happening in our region. We will block any developments done without consultation.

- Traditional areas need to be extended and users need to have a say on what happens there. It all comes down to the land you control. Give us the control to see how serious you are.

- When will round table be back?

- There should be regular contact between the Community and the Round Table.

Island Lake – NACC

- How long after the deadline will the plan actually take place?

- Once the recommendations have been made, when will they be given to government?

- Who is pushing for the all weather road? Government or communities?

- Government needs to hear from communities other than Island Lake in regards to an all weather road.

- Local people need to be hired if an all-weather road is to be built.

- Forestry is not offering much employment because of changing modern technology.

- Is there any one community that can stop the process? There may not be consensus at the end of this process because different groups have different interests and views.

- Will there be a possibility to meet as a community to discuss this process to include all members.

Little Black River First Nation

- Timber is being cut within our trap lines without our input.

- The ESPI ties in with some of our community initiatives.

- The maps on the wall need to be blank so that we can identify what we want to protect as ours.

- Economic benefit and jobs are not going back to local communities.

- Expansion at Nopiming will mean that pollution will come down through our river system.

- The chief and council should be here, as we need to have direction and input from our leadership.

- Any additional travel going north will create additional opportunities for us such as a gas bar for example. A gas bar location on highway #304 might be accomplished through Little Black River reserve land being "swapped".

- Let's put our minds together to make our reserve a better place. We have people come to our community, let's work together with them to plan for our community.

- We will be working to develop ideas and plans and will invite the Round Table back then.

- We need economic development, tourist development; there are lots of alcohol problems.

- We have visions of ecotourism and general tourism development.

- We need to create employment and learn how to use resources. The Round Table is here to help us, we have a small reserve and there have been too many changes of leadership. Let's work together.

- Relations must improve, not just with government but people in general. We do not want to be in a position where we have to beg for our own future. Give us our resources back.

- Billions have been spent on gun control. Money could have been better spent on assistance.

- Our infrastructure needs to be upgraded. We have a beach but lack the funding to improve the road to it. We need gravel and crushed rock for the road.

- If there is forestry development we want to do it. We disagree with the Forest Management License.

- One time wild rice was open for use by anyone but harvesting was taken away from us. Today we need a permit to harvest. We want it back and be able to share with everyone. We want to get back to that way of life. We were here before the boundaries.

- Cottage developments and expansions are occurring. Water treatment plants etc. are issues that are happening on our traditional lands and we are not being informed. We need to be made aware of these developments and our concerns listened too.

- We are scared of partnerships that are formed without the First Nations Council.

- Lets do the planning so we can help our community develop and prosper.

- We are a small community with a lack of support. Changes in leadership lead to minimal positive activity/development. We need to develop our plan to aid our community. We need to get as much from our resources as we can.

- Our land use will supercede any other plans.

- Our trapline is smaller than others in the area and should be made larger. Our population has grown.

- We have concerns with hydro and Bipole III.

- We have concerns with sustainable development. What happened to our buffalo?

- We are hindered in what we can do in our territory because of our circumstances.

- I am glad that governments seek knowledge from our scientists (Elders). Does the government already have a plan? Everything we need is contained in Treaty # 5. Why do you have to come back for reaffirmation?

- Why are there no muskrats and fish anymore? Is it because of hydro?

- Non-Aboriginal people have to work with us; relations between us have to improve.

- Maybe we don't need your help; we just need the resources you took from us.

- When is the road into the community of Loon Straits going to be improved?

- Little Black River is very interested in cottage development in the area and we should have exclusive rights to such.

Little Grand Rapids First Nation

- How do we ensure outsiders don't come in and over exploit the resources?

- How can the community stop lodges from taking in hundreds of fish?

- Commercial fishing is being opposed by local lodge owners and therefore sport fishing is the only game in the area.

- Water quality is becoming an issue as the water color is changing and affecting fish quality.

- There was mention of the world heritage site being proposed by three First Nations in the area. What will happen to the committee formed for an accord with Pikangikum, Pauingassi, Poplar and Bloodvein to address the issue of sustaining the environment? Will it be disbanded because of the round table and this process? It is recommended that the committee be included in this process.

- There has been vandalism of trap lines. There is no compensation with respect to loss of revenue by local trappers.

- The First Nation needs employment and has identified employment opportunities with Manitoba Conservation as a part solution to local unemployment issues.

- Need to improve relations and communications with Manitoba Conservation, particularly with the NRO's.

- It is a historical moment that the government is sharing information with First Nations people.

- First Nation identified future resource sharing as a means of financing resource management.

- Government hasn't shared much so what is being planned?

- Is government stopping all development on the east side? Will the winter road be built this year?

- There are no recycling opportunities in the community and as a result, landfill sites are pressured to take recyclable materials thereby using necessary space.

- Atikaki Park closed all doors and no economic development opportunities.

- Cottage and lodge developments are a concern. It appears only white outsiders are approved for lodge and other licenses.

- Trappers indicate that wildlife is moving away from traditional spawning and calving areas.

- The community would like co-management opportunities.

- There is a need for their own conservation officers to police their own community.

- Non-Aboriginals will force us out of our own lands.

- People want to maintain traditional lifestyles.

- Lodge owners are using airplanes to hunt.

- Hunting only for sport.

- Community would like another set of maps.

Little Grand Rapids NACC

- If the forests are not cut and used it will burn and no one will benefit.

- Winter roads are built too late in the season. There is a need to ensure the winter road is built earlier by the band. There is lack of capacity and experience for neighboring communities to do the job they need to do.

- Have more RCMP/policing for the surrounding communities.

- There are child welfare issues in the communities.

- What is government's strategy to deal with alcoholism and rampant drug abuse by adults and youth? This is the future of the communities and more priority should be given on these life and death issues.

Manigotagan – NACC, MMF

- There are trust issues between community members and government in general. The community finds it difficult to trust the objectives of the initiative and whether or not their suggestions/comments will be taken into consideration when it is time to make decisions.

- An elder from each community should sit on the round table to represent communities and present traditional knowledge on resources and medicines. Elders should attend all meetings.

- Everything should be recorded at these meetings.

- A community radio station could broadcast these meetings.

- Decisions will be difficult given all the competing issues.

- Money should be spent on existing roads before a new one is planned for the east side.

- Local people must benefit from resource use activities.

- The community requires jobs and road improvement projects could provide them.

- Whenever industry moves into the area, people from outside the community benefit more than local people.

- There is a lot of mistrust due to past actions of government. For example, at Wanipigow, cottage owners erected a water control structure drastically reducing the flow of water downstream. This is the source of drinking water for the Hollow Water First Nation.

- It is unrealistic to expect communities to develop positions by June 2004. This date makes the process seem like it is being fast-tracked. Communities need time and resources (money, facilitators, etc.) to identify issues and formulate positions on them.

- The Manigotagan River Park Reserve is being pushed on the people. The community of Manigotagan is planning to expand their boundary up the Manigotagan River to the second falls. Because our community is situated on the river, we would like to continue our community on the river. The park reserve is willing to start at the second falls but once the BI-Pole III line comes down, will they take the land back from the community for this line? This is something that the community does not want to see happen.

- A person can get an outfitter license but no moose or deer tags. The resource allocation process needs to be reviewed.

- How can the City of Winnipeg dump raw sewage that affects Lake Winnipeg and not be held responsible? Fisheries are affected by water quality in the lake. Algae blooms are increasing and affecting fishers' livelihood.

- Manigotagan will share its community plan with the round table when it is ready.

- Manigotagan want more training and education opportunities in the community.

- Manigotagan does not want the Manitoba Hydro BI- Pole line running trough their community.

Manto Sipi Cree Nation

- A concern was raised that cyanide from a mine on Elk Island was polluting a river that runs into God's Lake, and whether or not it could be stopped before it was too late. The water quality should be checked.

- An all-weather road is important; it would be good for groceries. Concerns raised around all-weather access to the community included a negative impact on the lodge, on young people (access to drugs) and possible abuse of traditional areas. Highway would have to be kept clean by R.C.M.P. It is not going to be easy.
- Any routing of an all-weather road should connect God's River with Thompson.
- Manto Sipi Cree Nation needs early fire notification and professional fire fighters.

Matheson Island – Loon Straits, Princess Harbour – NACC

- At what stage is Manitoba Hydro at in getting their line in?
- Can the north-south hydro line be done in collaboration with the winter roads, ie. make 1 instead of 2 corridors?
- Why not put the roads and lines together so they do not have to use so much forest?
- Is there an issue with stopping the road in the East Side?
- I can feel the effects of the damage that Hydro has done, the water levels are low.
- It would be a blessing to have a road for those communities.
- Who is to tell us how to make these decisions and who will help us develop a plan?
- There will be anglers, hunters and trappers up here and they will use up the lands too quickly.
- Loon Straits is forgotten people here, in what way can we benefit from outsiders?
- Jobs and economic development are important.
- What advantages does the west side have when the East Side opens up?
- What are other communities saying about their issues? They might have said things we won't think about and vice-versa.

- Why does Manitoba Hydro get to say “no” to the road?
- They should take the road if they want their line to go through it?
- Make them pay for the road too, instead of a fee.
- There has been destruction from Hydro in the past with little compensation.
- Is there compensation for impacting trapline areas of First Nations if hydro lines go through?

Norway House Cree Nation

- Only a small part of original Manitoba left; it is fearful what is happening.
- How can we make our living here in a deteriorating environment?
- How can we protect our mother earth because this land is all ripped up?
- Norway House was a happy place but not anymore.
- We are beginning to return to traditional medicine.
- Fish movement in and out of the land is important
- What are the government's plans regarding the development of the East Side?
- The Norway House Cree Nation is not accountable to the Government of Manitoba and an MOU should be in place before we participate in any planning process dealing with resource management.
- The local trappers association wants to know what will happen to the trap lines when development occurs.
- There is high unemployment in our communities, because when any development opportunities arise, proponents bring their own people to work on local projects. We have a lot of traditional people here that are qualified to work.
- We want government to consult trappers about their plans because we want to keep the land in its original state.

- Norway House considers itself a sovereign nation and the fact that the province established a First Nation Council does not mean it represents Norway House First Nation. We consider this a provincial entity.
- Land planning is important to the trappers. The trappers believe they are losing access to traditional trapping areas.
- Fur market prices are low and trapping operations are more expensive today than in the past.
- The Norway House First Nation members have a hard time locating maps for use in trapping.
- There is mining activity in the Red Sucker Lake vicinity, however, we believe this to be Norway House traditional territory.
- Since the construction of the highways, the three types of Caribou who used to be here, no longer inhabit this area.

Norway House NACC

- Information that was to be provided to communities is not being received.
- Information is not going to the community in a timely fashion.
- What is the plan? Government must have a plan in place already.
- Are any communities suggesting leaving some areas as they are?
- Is this process a spin off from the Manitoba round table? No this process is the East Side Planning Initiative and separate from the Manitoba round table.
- Does this process overlap the other round table? Yes everything overlaps.
- Request for a list of the round table and First Nations Council membership list.
- How many people attended the Norway House Cree Nation community visit?
- Concern about mining.
- Should be able to revisit the plan and have a renewal within 5 years and have the ability to revisit because changes will continue to change in the area.

- Treaty Rights must be honoured and accessibility to the lands be available for First Nations.

- Change in the water, it's dirtier with more algae.

- Swampland has an ecological process and function and is not to be viewed as wasteland.

- Aware that progress can't be stopped, it will happen.

- Each new venture should be step by step and ensure to plan stage by stage and not everything coming at once.

- Norway House NACC is currently in the process of creating a community plan. Northern Affairs has been dealing with Northern Flood issues and this has pushed their planning back.

- Concern that once the road is built people will follow with their developments. Outside influences coming into the community could be a concern.

- Community involvement needs to be done before any decisions can be made.

- Current road into the community is in terrible condition and needs repair.

- Tourism would be a plus for the community.

- Is there any info that shows possible routes for an all weather road?

- Individual councilors are building cottages and are pushing for a road.

- Cost of food and supplies higher in some communities.

- Government won't build a road unless it is for there own needs. It won't be built because the community wants it. It will be built because of the resources the government wants and needs.

- Economic development over the next 10-15 years is a major priority for the community.

- Development of a fish processing planting is currently being discussed. Fish is currently being sent to Freshwater Fish Marketing Board.

- Need to develop eco-tourism.

- Fishing Lake, cabins and opportunities not available to everyone in the community.

- Community is not made aware of activities from the resource board. They have recently been provided a spot on the board.

- Growing cranberries could be a viable opportunity for the area.

- Each community has to be consulted and they decide what should be done along the east side.

- Have to ensure it is a process that is revisited and changed as needed.

- Radio stations can be used as a means of getting the information out to the community.

- Trappers and elders communicate in Cree so there is a need to make the information available in Cree.

- Hydro development along the east side is a concern for the community.

Pauingassi First Nation

- When people are given permits to trap in the Pauingassi traditional area, the First Nation wants to be consulted so that the First Nation members can be apprised of who has been given permits and develop working relations with permitees.

- Wild rice harvesting is an opportunity the First Nation can develop and maintain.

- The construction and maintenance of a local airport would bring much-needed jobs in the area as well as bring the costs of goods and services down to acceptable levels. Currently, the price of a four-litre milk is $13.99 in Pauingassi, which is four times the price of milk in the south. Alcohol, however, is the same price.

- The construction of a local airport would also improve medi-vac programs for those individuals who require medical emergency assistance.

- The First Nation has indicated our priorities should be reviewed to accommodate our young people who require milk to develop their minds and bodies.

- Hydro rates are a serious concern to local residents. The current rate for an average sized bungalow is approximately $200.00 per month while rates in the south for a similar size home is approximately $75.00.

- While Manitoba Hydro has introduced an insulation program to help defray hydro costs, communication between Hydro and the First Nation administration has not been the best. The First Nation wants to see rates lowered through any means.

- Unemployment rates range in the 80-90 percent. A commercial fishery in the area would improve job creation, however, transporting fish would remain a high cost to the industry.

- There is opposition to outpost hunting in the area. This opportunity is done without any consultation with the local people.

- The First Nation wants to work closer with the Natural Resource Officers who frequent the area. They want their people hired to work alongside the NRO's.

- The province has sided with local lodge owners and favour these owners when developing pollicies on lodges in the north. People who live in the north should be given priority when policies are developed.

- The First Nation requested a land status report on their existing reserve lands. They indicated a misunderstanding exists between the parent First Nation and Pauingassi.

- The First Nation will advise the ESPI if they require a community meeting.

Pine Dock

- Why is Pine Dock included in the discussions of the East Side Planning exercise?

- A proposed road on the East Side of Lake Winnipeg would impact inhabitants, wildlife, eco-system, etc.

- The community wants to be consulted on land transactions and allocations in the area.

- The cost-efficiency or feasibility to build an all-weather road up the east side of Lake Winnipeg is questionable.

- The community expressed concerns about not being notified well about East Side meetings and requested that information be sent to them in a timely manner so that they would be ale to comment effectively.

Powerview and Local MMF

- Have additional timber leases been increased?
- How will the Hydro projects on the East Side impact the ESPI Process?
- Is the extension of 304-highway north talked about in connection with hydro development?
- Are we here to talk about the development on the east side?
- Send future information to Powerview Metis Local through the Manitoba Model Forest
- Is there objection to the development and construction of an all-weather road?
- There should no more Federal and provincial parks established without consent of the community.
- All communities in the southern portion of the study area have been developed around logging. We need logging and mining on the east side. Logging is much more environmentally sensitive today.
- We are concerned about the environment. Hunting, fishing and trapping are an important part of our life.
- These meetings are important.
- People in the community are educated and must be listened to.
- Parks would be OK if the tourists didn't make such a mess.
- The only thing allowed on the Bloodvein River is a canoeing and people are making decisions about the area without knowing anything about it.
- There is support for the construction of an all-weather road, to reduce freight and hauling costs and to create employment, but not more Parks.
- Costs in the north are directly related to the freight costs.

- An all-weather road would not only be helpful to the community, but also to taxpayers.

- Health problems are greater in the north; a road would help alleviate much of the problem.

- You cannot find nurses to go north because they have to fly.

- Education in health and diet, as well as nursing, ambulance and police services, would all improve with a new road.

- If a road goes into a remote area, concerns about culture are what that area makes of it. People from remote areas must leave their community on medical trips and have no one to escort them, visit them, or aid in their recovery, because others can't get to and from the hospital by road.

- There are a lot of untapped Federal dollars that could be put to training programs for local people to develop an all-weather road. This would create local employment.

- People are in favor of development but we also care about the environment. We live here and do not want to see the environment destroyed. The mill at Pine falls is very environmentally concerned and responsible. We helped reforest areas while Abitibi was here. That was never done down East.

- What ill effects will an all weather road do or have? Has the road through the Interlake affected the environment?

- If our First Nations brothers want a road we should support them.

- Environmental impact studies must take place.

- It is startling on how the wealthy all over the world try to tell us what to do we are being watched by the world. There was a person from Germany in Hollow Water begging the people of Hollow Water to stop this process (ESPI).

- Influential environmental groups are negatively impacting local communities.

- How much time is being spent in schools? It is their future and they need to be involved. We must get information to the schools, to teach the children to protect the environment but still have progress and development

- You don't need to protect the trees to the degree that a protected area demands. There are enough protected areas.

- We in the community have to have a say in what is going on. We need to have a strong understanding of what has to be done not some millionaire in Florida.

- Will there be no forestry licence expansions until the ESPI is complete?

- It is not easy to reforest a mature forest; it is much easier to reforest an area after has been cut.

- Communities must be advised of the park issues, so that they understand the impact.

- Tourist come from the city to our area and leave so much garbage behind that it costs our communities to clean up the mess. They also bring their own food and drink with them so what will they be doing for communities up the east side when they don't spend money here?

- Is it odd that chronic wasting disease is rampant in Manitoba's major national park, Riding Mountain, where logging and hunting are prohibited?

- The environmental people should come to talk to our community so that we can tell them how we feel.

Red Sucker Lake First Nation – NACC, MMF

- There is a need to find a way to get community members more informed about the East Side Planning Initiative. Radio and TV could be used and information is required in the local dialect.

- The community needs someone to point out the potential for development and how to develop resources.

- There is a need for more discussions between government and the community.

- There is a need to be involved in the designation of protected areas. A community member had received a map from Energy & Mines that showed an area south of Red Sucker Lake that he was told was protected. If that were true, mining in the area would not be available to the community, nor would jobs. There is also good timber around Red Sucker Lake and there was a concern that a protected areas designation would prevent one individual from developing a sawmill to replace a number of tents with buildings.

- For this reason as well, the community must also be consulted about mining activity. Community members have observed the comings-and-goings of mining equipment, personnel, etc., all of which, it knows nothing about.

- One trapper raised a concern about people coming onto his trapline and staking a claim and then him being asked to leave his trapline.

- There is a need to have more Elders involved in this process.

- Youth must have a role in this process as they are excluded most times.

- Everyone needs to work together in this process.

- Several people noted the hardship in living up north. Gas is $1.99 per litre. The cost of a helicopter to go there (33 miles) is $4,000.00 for a one-way trip. Everything is expensive. The round table is needed.

- Jobs are needed.

- A concern was raised about mining companies abandoning mines and just leaving the environment destroyed. An example was noted in which 197,000 gallons of diesel fuel were left in tanks within one trapline after a mine closed. The site is in Ontario, 30 miles from Red Sucker Lake. The tanks are now leaking.

- One Elder noted that boundaries were set up and regulations passed that interfered with the peoples' livelihood.

- There is a need for a community map focussing on activities that might affect the planning.

- The East Side Planning Initiative requires more time to discuss issues focussing on aboriginal interests.

Sagkeeng First Nation (North Shore)

- There should be more Elders and youth involved in the process.

- There should be an office established for our students to discuss this and other issues.

- We are happy that the province is finally listening to us

- If an all-weather road is built, funds should not be deducted from our INAC funds.
- What is meant by annual allowable timber cut?
- A concern was expressed about opening up the north to mining and its ecological impacts. How does mining development fit I with sustainable development?
- What is happening with the impacts on the environment as a result of abandoned mines, ie tailings, heavy metal pollution, etc.?
- Why wasn't Manitoba Tourism in the video? We should be looking at the potential of this sector instead of forestry ad mining.
- There needs to be environmental impact studies done before development takes place.
- If we take fish and timber away - we take away lives.
- Give dollars for road development to communities to lower their costs for consumption.
- An all-weather road must not impact our treaty rights.
- Lumber companies erect fences and gates on roads after they clear-cut and claim that area. We have no access anymore. In one company area, we went hunting by going through an unlocked gate, however, conservation charged our people with trespassing and hunting and seized our guns. By doing this, our treaties rights and land entitlement are taken away.
- Who is studying and monitoring water and air pollution?
- There needs to be more support from Tourism Canada, not just from the Province of Manitoba.
- The video should show Elders, woman and children expressing their view.
- We should earn some money from this initiative.
- What damage does the pulp mill do to our water?
- We have to phone the mill for permission to hunt. If we do not hunt within those times, we are charged.

- What benefits will First Nations get out of an all-weather road and will we be compensated for its impact?

- While the province talks about shared resources, we haven't had anything shared with us through treaty rights or land entitlement.

- If the First Nations claimed the beaches on the east side of Lake Winnipeg, they could get millions of dollars in return.

- Our rights have been trampled on for many years and the pulp mill took our traditional livelihood away.

- Development on the East Side has to do with resource harvesters, not First Nation's people. Forestry harvesters and cottage developers will benefit from development.

- What benefits do we get from Forest development? We were promised jobs by past forest operations, it did not happen.

- How are court case decisions concerning Treaty Rights, such as the Supreme Court decision concerning Sparrow, going to be looked at by the round table?

- Treaties need to be interpreted to know what they imply before land use decisions for the east side can be made.

- Protected areas are being established without consultation with affected First Nations.

- The maps you have arrived with have no Anishnabe input.

- How do you protect the environment if a road goes through?

- Treaty Rights have not been defined by Anishnabe people within our communities. We need to understand some of these things before we get involve with east side planning. Our land has been taken over, we are now beggars in our own land.

- When I was young, we lived off the land and didn't need help. We had an abundance of resources. Then change came in a form of a document called The Indian Act. In 1942 a person pushed for the Indian Act, from British Columbia. Our chief went against it, he knew enfranchisement was coming. In 1948, chiefs were called in to revise the Indian Act. It was rejected but passed through in 1951. Our Chief John Thompson was disregarded, and the Federal government declared elections. Sagkeeng had been in a downward spiral ever since. We were self-sufficient until 1951; money wasn't needed, goods were traded.

- If we put resources to use in communities today, we would teach people to be like before 1951

- The province had a lot of gall to ask Anishinabe to support changes to the Fisheries Act.

- Let Anishinabe map out their protected areas and territory areas on the maps.

- Lumber companies are clear cutting in parks.

- Mining is bad for environment.

- Roads construction will affect plants and animals and therefore how can treaty rights to hunt not be impacted?

- Why is Tembec involved in this process and what percentage of the east side will they be allowed in the future?

- We should be developing promotional materials for our culture? We could do this through tourism.

- Ecotourism should be seen as an alternative to forestry and mining. Bring in German tourists who want to learn about our culture.

- The Royal Proclamation state rights will be protected. How will this road impact these rights?

- First Nations are not allowed to hunt in parks yet lumber companies can go in and harvest. This is an infringement on Treaty Rights.

- Many of us have criminal records and cannot use firearms, we might as well go back to bow and arrows.

- The mill has caused great damage to the community, nobody wants to takes responsibility for this.

- Lumber companies and hydro do not care about damage. They care about profit.

- Understanding Treaty Rights is also responsibility of Manitoba government and not just First Nations.

- Promote students in each First Nation. Students have role to play and need to work closely with your office. Set up a sub-office in Sagkeeng to help students gather information and advocate on behalf of their First Nation.

- Can you guarantee our treaty rights to be honored when a new road is built?

- What are other communities saying about an all-weather road?

- Visiting communities only once is not fair as it does not solicit all the issues and concerns of the communities.

Sagkeeng First Nation (South Shore)

- There seem to be two entities: the province and Tembec. How do we separate them?

- 75 years ago we promised them and they promised us. Today, they have not delivered. We had a deal with one company and we are still waiting.

- There is no information on economics.

- We are interested in your opinion, but you do not live in the community. How can you suggest change?

- How can 20 people digest all this information, for example, things I hear about mining?

- We may say something but it is going to happen anyway.

- Why wasn't there more information on the video about ecotourism?

- How is sharing information going to help me?

- There should be no mining in the planning area at all. There is too much poison from the mining industry.

- We are concerned about changes in government and direction jeopardizing the plan.

- Treaties were signed and recognized as nothing but promissory notes

- We are here to share information and the powers that be will use that information to do their projects

- Is this initiative related to an all-weather road?

- Should we put a dollar figure to life?

- A road will open up the drug trade and communities will lose their language. Look at Cross Lake and hydro and the negative consequences it caused.

- We will become the 51st state of the U.S. the way things are going.

- We are losing our rights now, ie dental.

- Used to see large trees but as a result of forestry, they do not exist anymore. Logging companies are hauling toothpicks. They over cut and don't reforest. I see positive change in selective cutting and applying traditional knowledge.

- What kinds of life will our children will have? Youth look forward to being 18 to receive welfare.

- There is nothing left in our traditional area because of mining, forestry, etc. All the game and furbeares are gone. There is nowhere to trap.

- Tembec and First Nations have to work together to develop a committee to define Traditional Ecological Knowledge projects and surveys. Is Tembec committed to funding TEK mapping?

- Want to see more emphasis on watershed management. Look at how many mills, cottages, towns, etc. are dumping into the river as far away as Thunder Bay.

- Concerned about water pollution and its impact on the health of our people and children. Monitor our water intake - not like Waterton. We need money to get our domestic water supply treated. Our Elders are telling us that there is something wrong with our water.

- Mining raises red flag; companies create pollution. They provide jobs, but what about safety?

- Should have First Nation people looking after natural resources.

- Mines declare bankruptcy and the clean up is left to others.

- Three different metals were found in the water of Lake Winnipeg.

- Treaties were signed with the Federal government. Where does Province fit in?

- Communities have to be educated on the all-weather road and its impact.

- Who will benefit from tourism?

- Should have woman and men working on the development?
- This initiative is important and our leadership should be sitting here.
- Tried for years to get water testing but the paper company says the water is safe to drink. Doctors say do not swim in it because it's contaminated.
- They talk about mining and forest in the video. These activities can cause great damage.
- There is nothing in our trapping area now and our medicine is being destroyed. We hope that you are in a position to help.
- Doctors say that if you drink chlorine over time you get cancer and diabetes.

Seymourville/Aghaming – NACC

- A concern was raised regarding the composition of the Round Table: how many Aboriginal people were on it and how many lived in the planning area.
- Tourism must be made more accessible in the area. One person had a proposal to purchase additional land to expand his tourism facility refused due to competing interest of protected areas and Tembec's right of first refusal in the area. Operations like Pelican Harbour however, got land development privileges and were supposed to provide jobs in return, which they did not.
- Concerns were raised on the impacts of opening up the East Side on traditional lifestyle of hunting, trapping and fishing.
- Metis and NACC communities need to have an equal say with First Nations.
- There needs to be profit-sharing between large corporations and communities.
- Concerns were expressed about how NACC communities would receive fair representation and what they could do to ensure their recommendations are honoured.
- A concern was expressed that a proposed sawmill partnership excluded Seymourville.

- Seymourville needs to develop its own plan as well as look at a larger geographical area and work with surrounding communities. It will need funds to accomplish this.

- A question was asked where BI-Pole III was going to be erected and how close it will come to the community.

- Internal road conditions pose health and safety concerns that have to deal with on a constant basis. Can the round table help the community lobby for better roads?

- How often does the Round Table and First Nation Council meet?

- The deadline to complete the plan by June 2004 is unrealistic. It is unrealistic to expect communities to develop positions before then.

- The community of Manigotagan is planning to expand their boundary up the Manigotagan River to the second falls. Because the community is situated on the river, they wish to continue growth along the river. While the Manigotagan River Park Reserve is willing to start at the second falls, there is a concern that once the BI-Pole II comes down, the Province will take the land back from the community for this line. This is something that the community does not want to see happen.

St. Theresa Point First Nation

- I heard someone welcomed the shift in government policy to include First Nation people in planning processes. He indicated government has been exploiting resources since 1933 and deliberately excluded First Nations in resource management.

- He suggested negotiations between First Nations and the province include resource ownership, resource management and revenue sharing schemes.

- Traditional territory belongs to community members.

- Depletion of resources, medicinal plants, fish and animals are being destroyed by outsiders.

- An elder expressed concerns regarding the ability of wildlife populations to sustain them.

- He asked what the province is doing regarding the protection of drinking water on Lake Winnipeg and fisheries.

- Local artifacts belong to First Nation people in the area and should be returned.

- Terms and conditions of treaty should be resolved first before commencing with planning activities on the East Side.

- First nation education should be a requirement of the public school systems including universities.

- Trappers and fishers should be treated the same as farmers down south.

- Road access into traditional lands would impact on wildlife and traplines.

- Development would upset natural process. Any development should be properly planned and proceed with caution.

- Environment is changing and land ruined and disrespected by non-Aboriginal people.

- Trespassers should be charged for trespassing and destruction on traditional land and affecting the livelihood of local trappers.

- Planting and harvesting of wild rice on traditional land by non-Aboriginal people is affecting livelihood of local people.

- There has been building of damns to irrigate water for wild rice, without asking for permission to build them. The province should also do something about the waste material along our shorelines.

- Need to consult with community before any activity happens in the planning area.

- Secretariat provided information about the role of the recently established Aboriginal Relations Branch within the department.

- Secretariat to follow up with Aboriginal Relations Branch regarding trespassers harvesting wild rice without permission from the community.

- Activities from Hydro, logging, mining adversely affect the community and the land.

- What plans exist regarding the construction an airport and a road from St. Theresa Point to Wasagamack First Nation?

- The province should negotiate ownership since development would be on their land.

- There are concerns respecting the proposed Manitoba Hydro BI-Pole III transmission line and how it will impact employment opportunities for the communities.

- Revenue sharing between the province and the communities should include Hydro, mining, pulp, logging, forestry and commercial fishing.

- Health conditions and lack of proper nutrition is an issue because of restrictions on hunting rights that are an infringement on Treaty and inherent rights.

- All resource issues need to be looked at to preserve First Nation culture and way of life.

- Need to conserve and preserve all resources for future generations.

- The general public and public school systems need to include Aboriginal history life styles and way of life in order that we eliminate cultural differences.

- Media needs to be kept in check and lines of communication need to be clear.

- Local trappers and fishermen need to be represented on the round table.

- There is a need for funding for community cleanup to help attract and develop tourism opportunities for the communities.

- Development of resources needs to be clear and transparent.

- Conduct clear and open surveys.

- Communities require traditional territory maps.

- There is a rapidly growing population in the communities and financial resources cannot keep up with demand.

- Natural law of nature is being altered and changed.

- Hudwin Lake is recognized as a traditional area.

- Is Hudwin Lake a protected area and do they have the right to hunt or trap or will restrictions be implemented? Can a community member go into the area and build on it as his inherent right?

- Natural Resources Transfer Agreement should be reviewed to ensure all people understand it.

- Province should negotiate with all First Nations and not just one.

- The province needs to ensure the information flows into the communities.

- The traditional territory is where the older people were born. It is only recently that people have lived in communities like St. Theresa Point. He notices that the environment has changed, the land has been spoiled by white people. The fish and animals are not the same.

- How can I charge a trespasser on my land? The issue is a wild rice harvester who also put a dam up to raise water levels and impacted his livelihood.

- First Nation people are keepers of the land. The new activities like hydro, forestry and mining are an exploitation of our resources.

- The North-West Hydro project that brought power to seven local communities was funded 75% by INAC, 15% by Manitoba and 10% by Hydro. Now Hydro owns an infrastructure that was paid for by Treaty (INAC) dollars. The First Nations should have ended up owning the lines and hired Hydro to manage them. The First Nations should also own the roads and airports that will be built on reserve land in this area. Bi-Pole III is a moneymaking scheme for Manitoba. The revenues should be shared with us. The same can be said for mining, forestry and commercial fishing.

- Our rights to hunt and fish are being restricted. We should not require any permits (gun registration, fishing permits) as this is an infringement on our rights. The legislation has to be looked at.

- We need to keep the land clean – we depend on the land for food and medicine. The land is what keeps us alive. Any kind of development must preserve and conserve. I hear Lake Winnipeg is polluted. If they (Whites) are going to come are they going to do the same with their technology.

- We do not want secret surveys of our resources. We hear of helicopters flying people around to look at the land. Developers must come to the community first.

- There should also be a trapper representative and a fishing representative on your round table.

- Farmers get compensated for loss of income. So do East Coast fishermen. Trappers have lost income because of markets. Trappers should be treated the same as farmers with respect to loss of income.

- We need a road to promote tourism

- There should be dollars for community clean up.

- There should be a process for 10-year reviews of development in the north.

- People in the south need to be educated about our ways in the north – they get a slanted view of our ways. The South has no understanding of the hardships here.

- The Province, not only the Federal Government, must respect the treaties.

- I have expressed my concerns many times. The creator gave us the resources – all the things on Earth. These are what define us as First Nations. My concerns over government are decisions that affect our identity. As an example, First Nations had their own way of child rearing. We believe that it is important to discipline a child. Now there are laws against this and it results in delinquency. Also, the government has wanted to assimilate us and change us to white people.

- It is my wish to leave our resources as they once were. The way this should be – the goose knows when to go south. This is how nature works. We cannot disrupt this. Our climate changing is upsetting the natural process. This is what so-called development has done to our country.

- Is Hudwin Lake a true protected area? If you do your research you should find past agreements on this area. Can First Nations hunt, fish and trap in these protected areas. My son wants to put a cabin up at Hudwin Lake. This has been a traditional area since 1953. Some elders used to live there.

- You must deal with the northern bands seven collectively as well as individually.

Wasagamack First Nation

- Wasagamack First Nation has begun to explore and research the development of a forest management plan, a resource management plan, a community development plan and a long-term sustainable development plan.

- There is a concern regarding the future of the young people in the area. This process must enable their ability to practice traditions and culture in order that they can survive on the land.

- A concern was expressed about outsiders coming into the community, collecting and recording data, leaving and not returning any information or results.

- The community must benefit from the ESPI process.

- Intruders onto existing trap line areas affect wildlife populations due to poor mining practices and lack of environmental and wildlife considerations. These same people also trap in the community's traditional trapping area which results in declining revenues for trappers and less wildlife for sustenance use by local people.

- Due to the language barrier and infrequency of communication between the two cultures, it is difficult to communicate and resolve local issues and concerns. There is a need to work closer together and translate all literature to Oji-Cree for elders and other community members to understand and participate fully in this process.

- Traditional hunting grounds are being invaded and communities have been told there is nothing community members can do about it. There is a need to respect and protect wildlife and hunting grounds. Sport hunting should not be allowed. We have video footage of hunters killing for sport.

- The community is thankful for the opportunity for Elders to speak and share their knowledge.

- There is a need for the community to be given time to absorb the information provided and return views and comments at a later date.

- There is a need for maps to show burial sites so they are not desecrated in any future land developments.

- It is preferable to have a united voice representing the Island Lake First Nations. For that reason, the round table members need to sit down with the Island Lake Tribal Council to discuss concerns, ideas and views about their communities and development in the area.

- Fish caught locally do not taste the same and now we have to go to traditional fishing areas to be able to eat fish.

- Once the report is completed will the committees be consulted and will Hydro work only with the round table?

- Compensation concerns from Manitoba Hydro to the First Nation were raised.

- There was a time you could drink water straight from the lake. Due to water quality concerns, the community must now rely on the water treatment plant for its water.

- We hear of (southern) people flying around in helicopters to shoot moose. We do not appreciate these sport hunters who only take the antlers. This is disrespect. We have to use every part of the animals we hunt. We also find intruders on our trap lines. This happened as far back as 1933 when I came upon a driller while out shooting for rabbits. My mother told me there was a lot of exploration and mining in the early days.

- There are times today when you hear that outsiders are invading our hunting territories. A man has been told that he cannot hunt or fish in his area for the area is set aside for sport fishing now. The (Canadian) government said they would take care of the Indian People and allow us to hunt in our traditional ways. They are taking this away slowly, just look at the gun registration. This East Side plan must protect hunting, fishing and trapping rights and respect the traditional hunting grounds.

- Outfitters planted wild rice in my trap line. Over time we have noticed the fish disappearing from this area. I met this person and told him he should not have done this in the first place. No one talked to us about this development.

- There was talk some years ago about planning for the land in our area. The Island Lake Tribal Council has begun to look at how the land should be cared for.

- The community needs to define traditional boundaries. We need to map traditional sites, summer camps and burial grounds. This will take a lot of resources, but these things have to be respected. We need this information before Bi-Pole III and roads come through.

- You need to change a few things with this new process. People often come from the outside to speak and get our input, but they never come back. Very few people get involved this way. You need to come back to Wasagamack.

- Your brochures should be translated into syllabics for some people can not read English.

- The people of Wasagamack need to work together with the southerners. We have to focus on what is going to happen in our lands. We also need to capitalize on our fishing and hunting skills.

- A representative of MKO spoke about areas that the Community needs opportunity to explore. These are a (1) community development plan; (2) forest management plan; (3) resource management plan; and (4) sustainable development plan.

- There was a story from an elder who witnessed his father becoming the first chief for Wasagamack. At this time an Indian agent signed an agreement and wrapped the chief in a Canadian flag as a symbol that Canada would protect our people and protect the land. This was a show of respect for Indian leaders. Now the chiefs do not get respect. Today all we have is broken promises on Treaty. There was a tree beside the Band Office that symbolized our first chief. This is where he went when it was time for him to pass on. Today there is a monument outside the Band Office that symbolizes our first chief.

- As First Nation people we have a lot of disadvantages in these communities. I fished and trapped when I was 14. This was the education provided by my parents. Your time here is too short for me to tell my tale. What I will tell you is that the four communities of Island Lake are close knit. As individual First Nations we are not strong enough to deal with the issues. The four must stand together.

- If we knew before hand that the government was coming we could have come better prepared. For some reasons we take it for granted that our council will give us the information. This does not happen. You see only a few people here – it embarrasses me. Because of such short notice we can not put our ideas in writing. We have to follow-up though. It is important to maintain contact.

- People down south do not know what it is like around here. They do not know our youth enjoy the forest and to go hunting. We are not in the bush enough though. The decline of traditional knowledge (i.e. curing of trees for medicine) has resulted in a decline in our health (i.e. diabetes). We have to obtain knowledge of our environment again and how to use the forest wisely. The Elders are passing on and the knowledge is being lost. The school system has to recognize this. There has to be a balance to allow people to go on the land.

- The next time you come up should be in the winter when the roads are in. Then you can have a meeting with all four communities together.

- We have to keep government honest with respect to Treaty rights. The government wants to amend various acts to get out of its commitments. An example is federal changes to the Indian Act. It says it has consulted us - via the Internet. This is not adequate consultation.

5

Appendix 8.5

Community Facilitation Reports

NACC Community Consultation
Submission to East Side Round Table
East Side of Lake Winnipeg Planning Initiative
405 – 326 Broadway
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 0S5

June, 2004

Submitted by:

Northern Association of Community Councils
750 – 331 Smith Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 0S5
Ph: (204) 947-2227 Fax: (204) 947-2446
Toll Free: 1-888-947-6222
e-mail: nacc@mb.sympatico.ca

prepared by:
Karen Peterson, PhD
Planning, Development & Impact Assessment
#324 – 1616 – 8th Avenue NW
Calgary, Alberta T2P 1C3
Phone/Fax: (403) 284-4255 Cell: (403) 988-4328
e-mail: karenpeterson@shaw.ca

Table of Contents

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

1.0 IMPLICATIONS OF THE PROCESS AND DATA COLLECTED. . . . . p. 1

2.0 ISSUES AND RECOMMENDATIONS . . . . p. 2
- 2.1 Traditional Activities . . . . p. 2
- 2.2 Existing Land Uses and New Development Proposals . . . . p. 3
- 2.3 Protecting the Boreal Environment. . . . . p. 3
- 2.4 Aboriginal and Treaty Rights . . . . p. 5
- 2.5 Ensuring an On-Going Mechanism for Plan Implementation . . . . p. 6
- 2.6 Aboriginal and Community Development . . . . p. 7
  - 2.6.1 Community and Regional Planning . . . . p. 7
  - 2.6.2 Economic & Employment Development. . . . . p. 8
  - 2.6.3 Capacity Development . . . . p. 9
  - 2.6.4 Divisions Within and Between Communities . . . . p. 10
- 2.7 Consultations on Land and Resources Allocations . . . . p. 10
  - 2.7.1 Cynicism . . . . p. 10
  - 2.7.2 Consultation and Communication p.11
- 2.8 Protected Areas p.12
- 2.9 Forest Resources p.13
- 2.10 Transportation p.13
- 2.11 Tourism and Recreation p.14
- 2.12 Hydro. p.15
- 2.13 Mining p.15
- 2.14 Other Issues p.16
  - 2.14.1 Commercial Fishing p.17
  - 2.14.2 Health and Social Issues. p.17

3.0 SCHEDULE A - COMMUNITY REPORTS

- Aghaming
- Berens River
- Bissett
- Island Lake
- Loon Straits
- Matheson Island
- Manigotogan
- Norway House
- Pine Dock
- Princess Harbour
- Seymourville

NACC Community Consultations
Submission to the East Side of Lake Winnipeg Round Table
prepared by Karen A. Peterson, Phd

Disclaimer: The following document expresses the opinions of NACC communities only. NACC does not in any way speak on behalf of the First Nation communities.

1.0 IMPLICATIONS OF THE PROCESS AND DATA COLLECTED

The Province of Manitoba and the East Side Secretariat are commended for their efforts to develop a Broad Area Plan. The move toward sustainable development and including the various publics in the planning process is a welcome change to the previous way of conducting business in the region. The task is a formidable one that has taken a great deal of planning and co-ordination to assemble the amount of information required within the time frame and budget allocations. The intentions and efforts put forward to date are duly recognized. To facilitate continuation of the process and the future implementation of the plan, the following narrative discusses the implications of the consultation process and the data collected. Included is a summary of the community discussions and an integration of their recommendations.

Although the objectives of the planning process were to bring together local communities, First Nations, industry and environmental organizations to develop a vision for land resource use that considered values of the boreal forest and local needs, the identification of issues and opportunities by the initial ESPI Review Panel pre-determined the type of information to be collected and thereby the outcomes to be achieved. Although the Panel had discussions with local and First Nation communities, failure to include aboriginal representation on the Review Panel or on the Advisory Committee leaves interpretation and identification of relevant issues to the discretion of non-native members. Although well-intentioned, omissions can occur when issues and concerns are reframed to fit within acceptable parameters of a governing group. Expectations are then shaped by the structure of the inquiry, not by the real needs of the communities and publics potentially affected.

Although the Broad Area Plan (BAP) is to consider the social, economic and environmental aspects of the watershed, none of the BAP categories directly relate to social issues, yet social issues were continually raised throughout the community consultation process. In addition, the two categories of "Traditional Activities" and "Existing Land Uses and New Development Proposals" identified in the ESPI Preliminary Report are missing in the BAP Template. Failure to include these issues in the working group deliberations convey the impression that the ESPI is not serious in its attempt to respect aboriginal rights, land use, local lifestyle and culture. It also restricts the potential for communities to fully participate in current planning and development of the region. This situation fuels cynicism within the NACC communities. They are concerned that the government already has a plan in place and is merely going through the motions of community consultation. Issues of traditional activities and existing land uses and new developments were consistently raised during consultations and are reported within this submission.

The Terms of Reference for the community consultations focused on the issues previously identified during the first East Side Round Table visits during the fall of 2003. A discussion format was used to expand upon or clarify the issues identified in the "What We Heard" document which provided a focus and starting point for discussion at the community level. To facilitate the identification of issues and concerns, additional comments and recommendations were conceptualized under categories that emerged from the community discussion itself, rather than limit discussion to the categories identified in the ESPI Preliminary Report or BAP template. In this manner, each community had the opportunity for a free flowing discussion to identify issues and concerns from their perspective and reality. This processes resulted in individual community reports where communities identified issues that they considered legitimate. These reports are included as Schedule A to this submission. To prepare the final NACC submission, community issues were integrated and incorporated into the BAP template where feasible. The difficulty inherent in this kind process, however, is that the spirit and intent of the information emerging at the community level can be lost as the data is fit within pre-determined categories as mentioned above.

Timeframes and limited funding also determined the scope of the current community consultations and the amount of community involvement that could actually occur. As a result, the consultation process has merely sketched the tip of the iceberg regarding the reality facing NACC communities. The focus on information sharing, the short timeframes and inadequate resource allocations made the task to gather specific data from a broad range of publics such as the trappers, commercial fishermen, prospectors as well as the communities potentially affected on the west side of the lake, problematic. The issues identified, however, provide a starting point and can be the focus for the collection of socio-economic data and local environmental knowledge which is an integral component of sustainable development planning that was missing in the current consultation process. Communities are also interested in hearing concerns and sharing ideas with other communities and working together to influence decision making for the region as a whole.

The following submission integrates the comments and recommendations from the NACC communities. It identifies the work and research that would facilitate the incorporation of community input within the East Side Planning Initiative.

2.0 ISSUES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 Traditional Activities

The east side round table include traditional ecological knowledge and address traditional activities within the planning area.

There is a vast amount of local and indigenous environmental knowledge which is being untapped. There is no mechanism to gather this knowledge nor is there a method identified regarding how it will be integrated and combined with western science to inform the Broad Area Plan process and future planning initiatives.

Recommendations:

2.1 Traditional Activities

- Government needs to acknowledge and take serious local and indigenous environmental knowledge.
- Methods to gather and incorporate local and indigenous knowledge into the Broad Area Planning process needs to be developed and implemented.

2.2 Existing Land Uses and New Development Proposals

Existing land uses including forest tenure and protected areas designation shall continue. Crown land and resource development and allocation requests which have a minor land use or environmental effect would be processed and approved or declined as per normal government administrative procedures. Examples include: cottage lots, lodge out camps, trapping cabins and fishing and hunting licenses. Upon approval of the plan, allocations and land uses would then be administered in compliance with the plan.

Major concerns have been raised regarding cottage lot development, protected areas, lodge out camps and fishing licenses since they impinge and impact the way of life of the people living on the East Side. Imposing controls through the protected area system restricts access and use by local people. There is concern that cottage lot development will incur environmental impacts that are beyond a minor effect. There will be increased pressures on sewage disposal, emergency response, traffic and pollutants entering the environment. With all the development happening in the region, the current infrastructure cannot support it. In addition, questions are raised regarding who will benefit from the tax revenue generated by development. Without consultation and involvement, the fear is that these initiatives will occur at the expense of the communities.

Recommendation:

2.2 Existing Land Uses and New Development Proposals

- Involve NACC communities in the planning, development and the benefits accruing from existing land uses and new development proposals.

2.3 Protecting the Boreal Environment

Consistent throughout the NACC consultations is reference to Lake Winnipeg and the quality of water. Concerns are raised regarding changes to the lake, quality of fish and increasing pollution due to developments throughout the watershed of Lake Winnipeg. The water quality on the Muskeg River has dropped as well. The watershed also includes the Saskatchewan River which flows from Alberta through Saskatchewan and Manitoba. Old dry cell batteries are in the water which adds acid. Not until the 1970s did we have this problem. The current of the water washes mercury from the old dock and slabs. The highways' yard contains salt and calcium and PCBs contaminate the land. There is also diesel fuel underground which Hydro says is not moving. People in the community have planted gardens there. The creek flows through that area as well. All this needs to be cleaned up. Peoples' health is affected by the water and children swim in it as well.

Many NACC communities are involved in commercial fishing and many businesses in the region as well as the province indirectly benefit through spin off economic activities. There is danger that continued deterioration of the quality of the water coupled with reduced prices for fish, jeopardizes the long term sustainability of the fishing industry. Information is needed regarding industrial impacts occurring on the Lake and waters upstream.

Environmental issues include increasing problems of sewage disposal due to increasing cottage development, environmental clean up from past development, erosion of river banks and maintaining biodiversity to maintain lifestyles and traditional activities. The increase of boats on the water due to tourism increases splashing onto shore which stirs up the whole lake. Erosion has also resulted in the loss of the beach that had been used by locals for recreation. The water level is low and the area is now full of clay. Chemical spraying by Hydro and the Department of Highways contaminates the vegetation and fish consumed by local people. Calcium on the roadways ends up in the lake. Awareness of the affects and increased enforcement of regulations could help curb conservation and environmental violations.

Recommendations:

2.3 Protecting the Boreal Environment

- Research and involve other groups/agencies/departments concerned with protecting the environment.
- Investigate environmental problems and develop inter-jurisdictional mechanisms to address the full effect of watershed issues.
- Increased enforcement by appropriate agencies should take place to discourage violations of conservation and environmental regulations and policies.

Water Quality

- Water quality needs to be maintained and monitored to sustain the fishing industry.

- Develop an on-going dialogue and follow-up with the Board that is studying the effects of Lake Winnipeg.
- Properly clean up the Wanibigow River system.

Sewage Disposal

- Regulations for sewage disposal need to be developed and clearly communicated to cottagers through signage and pamphlets to raise awareness.
- Enforcement mechanisms for waste disposal need to be developed to ensure compliance.
- Regulations need to be enforced by the appropriate agencies to stop and control poor waste disposal habits.

Bio Diversity

- Corporations and companies not complying with environmental regulations should be charged to discourage environmental damage and encourage sustainable development.
- Corporations should be involved in regional discussions so they can become aware of the communities' interests and environmental concerns in the region.
- Conduct studies to determine why the weeds are not growing.
- Document local knowledge; conduct surveys and land use mapping.
- Impact assessments need to be conducted from a long-term perspective.
- Communities need to comply with their operating licenses of lagoons.
- Industry needs to get directly involved in sustainable development initiatives.
- Bio-diversity in the region needs to be maintained through appropriate study and consultation for sustainable development.
- Wildlife needs to be maintained in the area.
- Keep from spraying chemicals.
- Stop putting pollutants into the system.

	• Protect Aboriginal and Treaty Rights by maintaining hunting, fishing, trapping and gathering.
Clean Up	• NACC communities need to get involved in Hydro initiatives regarding environmental clean up. • Research the extent of contamination and implement clean up initiatives. • Promote a clean environment. • Before moving forward, fix the current problems

2.4 Aboriginal and Treaty Rights

Aboriginal rights are impacted by major development on traditional lands and aboriginal people have an interest in protecting these lands from outside incursion. Aboriginal and Treaty Rights pertain to crown lands that contain specific hunting and fishing territories where harvesting activities form the base of an informal economy. Recent court decisions regarding disputes over land use consistently rule in favor of aboriginal rights. The test of Sparrow (1990), for example, is to conduct adequate consultation to identify all the interests and concerns and to ensure minimal impact. Delgamuuk (1997) calls for meaningful consultation when access to and use of lands and resource potentially infringe upon aboriginal and treaty rights. Delgamuuk requires something significantly deeper that mere consultation where aboriginal people are fully informed, in a timely manner, that there are meaningful opportunities to express interests, issues and concerns and that they are given serious consideration. Weyerhauser (2002) refers to accommodation of the proprietary interests of aboriginal peoples in relation to land use.

Ninety per cent (90%) of the people in NACC communities have regained their status through Bill C31 of the Indian Act. Although some have become members of a First Nation, many have not. Without affiliation, the ESPI First Nation Council cannot represent their interests. Individuals under Bill C31 must represent their own interests notwithstanding the fiduciary obligation of the federal government under INAC to ensure that their aboriginal rights are protected. INAC, however, has been a missing player in the ESPI deliberations and there has not been a mechanism or protocol developed to address Bill C31 aboriginal rights. Consultation before protocol is to put the cart before the horse. The restricted time frames and limited amount of monies designated for community consultation is insufficient to ensure that these legal requirements can be met. Communities cannot become fully informed about the Broad Area Planning Initiative to enable them to express their interests and identify concerns based on reflection and meaningful involvement by community members. Impact cannot be determined, as well, if information is not gathered regarding traditional life style and its significance to the communities. From an aboriginal perspective, this situation gives the impression that the government doesn't understand the complexities of aboriginal rights and its implications which leads to cynicism and skepticism that community input will be taken seriously.

Recommendations:

2.4 Aboriginal and Treaty Rights

- The new Aboriginal Affairs Committee of cabinet should ensure that the NACC communities are not forgotten.

- A broader scope of consultation consistent with the recommendation of the COSDI Report needs to be designed and implemented that takes into consideration the aboriginal rights of Bill C31 individuals and the role of INAC. Collective rights need to be considered, the identification of real issues as identified by the communities themselves and the provision of mutual benefit.

2.5 Ensuring an On-Going Mechanism for Plan Implementation

Long term viability of the Broad Area Plan is in jeopardy when aboriginal communities have voiced the concern that consultation has not been adequate.

Recommendations:

2.5 Ensuring an On-Going Mechanism for Plan Implementation

- Develop appropriate processes for meaningful involvement with NACC communities.

- Include elders on the Advisory Committee and have the Advisory Committee meet on an on-going basis not just once or twice in the process.

- Develop inter-jurisdictional agreements to resolve complex past issues and to address potential future infringement of Aboriginal and Treaty Rights in a comprehensive manner.

- Every effort needs to be made to include the regional round tables in planning initiatives.

- A workshop/conference with NACC communities must be organized to share information regarding their issues and concerns and to collaboratively develop a vision, role and strategy for continued involvement in the Broad Area Planning initiative.

- Communities should choose the people to sit on the round table.

They should not be appointed.

- Develop a mechanism to resolve conflicts between public interest and proprietary rights of aboriginal peoples.
- Maintain NACC status on the East Side committees and the planning process. NACC should have a representative there and have it all the time. A consultant should be hired directly by the communities to work on their behalf and on an on-going basis.
- Formalize guidelines, develop standards and create linkages across departmental lines.
- Develop integrated policies to overcome the barrier of fragmented responsibility.

2.6 Aboriginal and Community Development

2.61. Community and Regional Planning

NACC communities lack the community plans and land use studies of the surrounding area to incorporate community aspirations and long range plans into the Broad Area Planning process. Shareholders of companies are also marching to a different drummer than the concepts of sustainable development. The economic and political drivers are disrupting and NACC communities are not sure where development is headed. The regional economic Round Table is currently being driven by Northern Affairs and the old systems are not in tune with new concepts. The communities need to first learn how to become a region where the design of development meets community not government needs.

Recommendations:

2.6 Aboriginal Community and Regional Planning

- ESPI needs to support and encourage the development of community plans.
- Legal surveys need to be completed for all NACC communities.
- Formalize guidelines, develop standards and create linkages across departmental lines that enable rather than hinder community and regional development.
- Adequate resources need to be provided for communities to hire appropriate expertise to assist with the development of community and land use plans on their own terms. Land use studies need to be

conducted within community boundaries and the surrounding area.

- A regional vision needs to be developed collaboratively with all players.
- Impact assessments need to be conducted before developing the east side.
- NACC communities need continued involvement to have a say.
- Increase understanding of the concept of sustainable development and promote sustainable living concepts.
- Local communities need to support local businesses.
- Develop a mechanism and the capacity for communities to work co-operatively together.
- A questionnaire needs to be developed for the youth to get their input. We need to have a youth and elder gathering.
- Management has to come from within.
- Provide services such as cell phones, call waiting, etc.
- Develop emergency response plans to correspond with future development needs.

2.6.2 Economic & Employment Development

To improve a region, you need to respond to the opportunities. Through combined community efforts, we could build mini successes and learn from the values achieved. These successes, in turn, can be used as a measuring tool for further development. Protection against liability is a barrier to moving forward. Identification of responsible parties is not clearly stated which leave projects vulnerable. There is fragmentation of responsibility within government and micro-management stifles progress. Initiatives have worked in spite of the system.

Recommendations:

2.6.2 Economic and Employment Development

- A mechanism needs to be developed collaboratively with NACC, Metis, Bill C31, First Nations, non-aboriginals and government to work together for mutual benefit. Other inclusive models need to be researched.

- To demonstrate social responsibility, crown corporations and industry conducting business in the north that receive subsidies from either level of government should adopt and enforce employment equity measures to enable equal access and equal opportunity for local and regional employment by NACC community members.

- Increased enforcement by appropriate agencies should take place to discourage violations of regulations and policies.

- Establish hire local criteria to keep the younger people in the region.

- More consultation is required for area employment and contract opportunities for Department of Highways, Department of Conservation, Hydro, and Tembec.

2.6.3 Capacity Development

Capacity (human and financial) at the local level is limited in regards to time availability for Mayors and councilors to take an active role to gather and reflect on the type of relevant information required. Overall capacity to respond in a meaningful way is limited internally amongst NACC communities and externally between governments and industry. Improved capacity at the local level will enable communities to respond proactively and meaningfully to development plans rather than merely react to issues as they arise. Improved capacity within government and industry will enable the shift in thinking that is required for sustainable development to be effective.

Recommendation:

2.6.3 Capacity Development

- Capacity of all players needs to be developed to enable informed participation. Awareness training and/or education is required in regards to the concept of sustainable development and broad area planning as well as the role of communities and the role of other key stakeholders within the process.

2.6.4 Divisions Within and Between Communities

The five groups of NACC, Metis, Bill C31, First Nations and non-aboriginals cause divisions within and between communities in the region. Everyone has a vested interest in development as well as protection of the land, yet divisions between people manifest themselves in various ways. There is lack of support, for example, to hire locally or to support local businesses, not just by industry or government, but by the local communities themselves. As a result, businesses fail and communities hire individuals from outside the region even when there are skills available locally. In some cases, government or industry identify priority hiring for one group at the expense of another, causing further alienation and isolation. Initiatives having a regional focus will encourage communities to work together to achieve economies of scale, retain youth and create opportunities.

Recommendation:

2.6.4 Divisions Within and Between Communities

- Develop regional capacity to create viable regional economies, recreation and improve the quality of life. Begin with workshops and conferences to create a shared sense of inter-dependence.

2.7.0 Consultation on Land and Resource Allocations

2.7.1 Cynicism

Communities are concerned that the government already has a plan in place and is merely going through the motions of community consultation. In some cases, there is a general lack of interest by community members to attend meetings because of the skepticism that their input will be taken seriously.

Recommendations:

2.7.1 Cynicism

- Government needs to build relations and demonstrate a commitment to partnership and on-going involvement with communities potentially affected by development on the East Side. The vision needs to be collaboratively developed and decisions need to reflect the needs and concerns of the people of the region.
- Develop joint planning mechanisms where government is accountable to act on community input.
- Relationship building and the capacity to function effectively in a collaborative environment needs to be developed by all parties.

2.7.2 Consultation and Communication

Lack of consultation, ineffective consultation and lack of communication regarding past development on the East Side has been a key contention overall. NACC communities feel they have been overlooked in regards to development by both government and industry. The impacts of development, however, are felt directly by people living in this region. NACC communities usually hear about initiatives after the fact, once decisions have been made. Communities will be left out of development when they don't know what is happening. The communities want to know what is going on and to have a say in how development occurs. There needs to be on-going regional representation for the East Side through a regional body with equal participation. Communities are also at a disadvantage when meeting with corporations and government who have the resources to hire experts and legal advisors while there is limited professional capacity at the community level. Communities are also interested in hearing concerns and sharing ideas with other communities and working together to influence decision making in the region.

Recommendations:

2.7.2 Consultation and Communication

- The government needs to be open about development plans.
- Maintain NACC status on the East Side committees and the planning process. NACC should have a representative there and have it all the time.
- Adequate resources need to be provided for NACC communities to hire their own consultant to work directly on their behalf and on an on-going basis to ensure fairness and a level playing field.
- Adequate resources tied to broad timeframes is required to fully inform communities, gather information, deliberate and enable informed participation.
- Socio-economic data and land use studies need to be completed and incorporated into the plan as part of the community consultation process.
- The inter-departmental group needs to keep the Round Table informed of all activities on the east side on an on-going basis.
- Appropriate consultation needs to occur with all departments on all local and area concerns not just within the established community boundary.
- Communication needs to occur on all levels, between NACC, the communities, the Ministry and the Secretariat.
- Timeframes need to be structured to ensure incorporation of collection of primary data where it does not exist and for holding community meetings.
- Projects and timing for community consultation need to be scheduled so as not to interfere with seasonal activities such as hunting, fishing,

prospecting and for consideration of freeze-up and break-up.

- Sufficient time needs to be allowed for community consensus building and ratification by community leadership.
- Collaborate for data collection.

2.8 Protected Areas

Protected areas have the effect of locking and blocking in communities. Imposing controls through the protected area system restricts access and use by local people.

The government is willing to protect areas through the protected areas initiative and the protection of traditional medicines should be included within this category. Traditional foods are linked to good health. We need to identify these foods and protect them. A lot of historical sites would need to be protected.

Recommendations:

2.8 Protected Areas

- Lessen restrictions in designated parks and reserves, corridors and river systems.
- Conduct research in collaboration with communities regarding the need for and identification of protecting areas of cultural significance.

2.9 Forest Resources

Clear cutting has caused loss of trees for pulp. Clear cutting effects water quality, fishing, trapping and an increase in forest fires. Some areas have not been reforested. The Model Forest has information through interviews. All the studies should be put together and shared with the community.

Recommendation:

2.9 Forest Resources

- Before moving forward, fix the current problems.
- Assemble all relevant information and share with the communities.

2.10 Transportation

Existing roads need to be upgraded (paved and ditched) as well as maintained for access and safety. PR #234 is used by people on the east side and west side of the lake as well as from the northern communities. Businesses are located on the west side as well as social services such as hospitals, doctors and personal care facilities which are accessed by PR #234. The existing roads are in poor condition which make them hazardous for local residents. Two kilometers of Tembec's Road, for example, is not maintained for winter conditions which adversely affects the safety as well as access to communities from Loon Straits to the northern reserves.

In general, NACC communities support the development of an all weather road to the northern communities to reduce the costs of food and improve health and social services. If an all weather road were opened up, people in the remote areas could fish for seven months of the year instead of four which would double the amount of fish caught each year. This would provide an incentive for the young people to stay. An all weather road would also reduce transportation costs for medi-vac and groceries which are very high. There are high costs associated with flying to Winnipeg and staying in the city to access health services. EMO and Search and Rescue are also affected. Communications and a connectivity strategy go hand in hand and are costly without a road. There had been a regional plan developed for a road about 15 years ago but thy never materialized.

Concerns regarding a road have been raised in regards to potential impacts to the river and that Oceans and Fisheries have not been involved. Opening up the area of the East Side, however, requires more information regarding the kinds of development that will actually occur as well as identification of the impacts associated with expansion and construction of an all weather road.

Recommendations:

2.10 Transportation

- Check with INAC and Northern Affairs for a report and consultations that had already been completed about 15 years ago.
- There needs to be adequate or additional funding for road construction and maintenance of existing roads. As a priority, pave and maintain #234.
- Provide an all-weather road to northern communities to ensure access to economic development opportunities, reduce the high costs of food and access to health services.
- As an interim measure, build a road from Poplar River to Island Lake. Supplies/materials could be barged to Poplar River and then over to Island Lake. This approach would reduce transportation costs for the northern communities a lot sooner.
- Corridor development should include both the roads and the transmission lines to minimize impact to the forest.
- Develop mechanisms to address inter-jurisdictional issues.

- Open up and all weather road to diversify the economy, reduce the high cost of living, improve communications and connectivity and provide an incentive for people to stay.

2.11 Tourism and Recreation

Increased lodge development on remote lakes by non-residents results in money leaving the region. The Park's initiative imposes controls that restrict access and use by local people. Communities want to continue using the river as they have always done and to promote its potential for eco-tourism. Pressures to develop remote cottages will effect day use by local communities and increase noise levels. Land allocations would increase conflicts. There is potential for cottage development within the boundaries of the communities and to develop the region for year round recreation.

Recommendations:

2.11 Tourism and Recreation

- Put a freeze on cottage development on remote lakes and opening up additional sites on remote lakes.
- Develop and promote cottage potential within community boundaries.
- Develop and promote year round tourism
- Continued upgrading of PR #304 to improve access to the region.
- No exclusive use of water ways, lodges and parks.

2.12 Hydro

Fifty feet of water has been lost over the last 10 years because of the erosion of Lake Winnipeg caused by Manitoba Hydro. Large areas have been washed out or dredged. Manitoba Hydro has compensated the northern communities. Compensation is required for the south as well. Contamination of hydro sites is a major concern in NACC communities. People have planted gardens and creeks flow in the areas of contaminated sites. Hydro started clean up of old sites and there are environmental issues but communities haven't been consulted or been made aware of current developments. There have not been any updates on the Bi Poll III. Hiring by Hydro should not benefit one group.

Recommendations:

2.12 Hydro

- Hiring for Hydro projects should be spread out between NACC, Metis, Bill C31 and First Nations.
- Corridor development should include both the roads and the transmission lines to minimize impact.
- Determine the effects of contamination of Hydro activities on the health of the people in the region.
- Continue clean up of contaminated sites.
- Hydro needs to develop appropriate methods and timelines for meaningful consultation with NACC communities.
- Hydro needs to involve NACC communities at the earliest stages of planning for selection of alternative corridor routes for the BiPoll III project.
- NACC communities need to get involved in Hydro initiatives regarding environmental clean up.

2.13 Mining

Boom and bust scenarios are typical of mining communities. There are differing opinions regarding mining in the area. For those communities which support mining, the goal is to continue the viability of the mining industry and to carry on with exploration to see potential benefits for the future. However, too many restrictions affect the viability of exploration. Concerns identified regarding mining relate to environmental impacts and its relationship to health.

Recommendations:

2.13 Mining

- Lessen restrictions in designated parks and reserves, corridors and river systems that have an adverse affect on the great mining potential of the area.
- Continue and promote exploration in the area.
- Determine the links between waste from mining activities and increasing health problems in the region such as cancer.

2.14 Other Issues

2.14.1 Commercial Fishing

The economy in many NACC communities is based on the fishing industry and has been for over 150 years. It is a way of life for the people. To reach quota, fishing is for only four months of the year, through the fall, winter and spring. The lake quota is 1.5M kilos. In 4 or 5 years we produced 500 – 600,000 kilos so there is room to expand. If an all weather road were opened up, we could fish for seven months instead of four and double the amount of fish we catch each year. This would provide an incentive for people to stay. Regulations also restrict us to bringing in the small fish because we are limited to small nets. Prices are down for Whitefish. You get three times as much money for Pickerel so the incentive is to fish for Pickerel.

There are a lot of people in the region involved in the commercial fishing industry on Lake Winnipeg. Not only the fishermen, but most people around the lake earn their money because of fishing. Suppliers, boat builders, shippers, exporters, gas, oil, food, health services and the freight going into the communities all benefit. Cottage lot development and outposts are small in comparison and there are limits to the sustainability of forestry and tourism for any length of time. In the forestry sector, as well, there is only cutting and trucking that is now being done. The commercial fishing industry is being overlooked in the East Side process. Perhaps it is being taken for granted, that it will always be here. The water quality, however, is going down hill and it is harder to get fish. There is a lot of algae growth in the summer. There is too much sewage being dumped into the lake. The fish go where there is feed. They have moved to the deeper parts of the lake. In some areas, it takes more time traveling by boat to get to where the fish are. This has impacts in regards to the need for equipment, repairs, etc. as well as the increased amount of time. We also loose more nets than we did in the past. The fish itself are good.

Recommendations:

2.14 Commercial Fishing

- Gather the data and study the economic significance of commercial fishing for the Province of Manitoba to show how important it is to the economy of the province. Determine how much fish is sold and what is the multiplier effect?
- Commercial fishing needs to be considered as a main stay and a priority. The viability of the industry and the sustainability of the resource must be ensured.

2.14.2 Health and Social Issues

The poor health on the East Side is four times higher when compared to the rest of the province. High costs of transportation for food and health services contribute to the poor health of the region. There is a lack of education and increasing social problems. There is an increase in cancer rates and younger people are dying. There is concern that contaminants in the environment are causing illness and disease in the region.

Recommendation:

2.14.2 Health and Social Issues

- Open up the land on the East Side with appropriate study and consultation for sustainable development to increase access to opportunities to improve the well-being of communities and to reduce the high costs for food and health services.
- Conduct research to determine the extent of environmental contamination on the health of the people in the region.

SCHEDULE A

COMMUNITY REPORTS

750 -331 Smith Street
Winnipeg, MB R3B 2G9
Ph: (204) 947-2227 Fax: (204) 947-2446
Toll Free: 1-888-947-6222
E mail: nacc@mb.sympatico.ca

EAST SIDE PLANNING INITIATIVE
Aghaming, Manitoba

ISSUES & RECOMMENDATIONS

Communication and Consultation

There are initiatives happening in the region such as roads and access roads but everything is done behind the scenes. We only hear about initiatives after the fact. A recent example is the announcement of cottage lot expansion. Although no planning was to be conducted until the ESPI process was complete, this development cannot occur without planning which fuels the fire of mistrust.

Recommendation Communication and Consultation

- Government needs to be upfront with communities

Fragmentation

There are splits and divisions between the communities caused by Northern Affairs human resources policies. Problems are parochial. There is fragmentation of responsibility within government and micro-management stifles progress. Initiatives have worked in spite of the system.

Recommendation Fragmentation

- Formalize guidelines, develop standards and create linkages across departmental lines that enable rather than hinder community and regional development.

Community and Regional Development

(a) Community Growth

Aghaming is a small community and needs to grow. Despite the fact that we have a growth plan, we don't have the population base to fit within the funding criteria of Northern Affairs. Land isn't the problem as there is land available. Our plans are simply resisted and we can't seem to move forward. Because of our size, there is no trust. We need support.

(b) Economic and Employment Development

Shareholders of companies are marching to a different drummer than the concepts of sustainable development. The economic and political drivers are disrupting and we are not sure where development is headed. The regional economic Round Table is currently being driven by Northern Affairs and the old systems are not in tune with new concepts. We (the communities) need to first learn how to become a region where the design of development meets community not government needs.

To improve a region, you need to respond to the opportunities. Through combined community efforts, we could build mini successes and learn from the values achieved. These successes, in turn, can be used as a measuring tool for further development. Tourism, for example, is an opportunity that could be expanded. This region is a recreation centre for such sports as volleyball, ski trails, and canoeing. We have already been host for regional championships for western Canada. These initiatives could be expanded. Barriers to moving forward are the micromanagement of Northern Affairs. Protection against liability is another barrier. Identification of responsible parties is not clearly stated which leave projects vulnerable.

Recommendation Community and Regional Development

- Local communities need to support local businesses.
- Develop mechanism and the capacity for communities to work co-operatively together.
- Establish hire local criteria to keep the younger people in the region.

750 -331 Smith Street
Winnipeg, MB R3B 2G9
Ph: (204) 947-2227 Fax: (204) 947-2446
Toll Free: 1-888-947-6222
E mail: nacc@mb.sympatico.ca

EAST SIDE PLANNING INITIATIVE

Berens River, Manitoba

ISSUES IDENTIFIED & RECOMMENDATIONS

ALL WEATHER ROAD

Look at the community and where it's at. In the past, 85% of the people had been working but now there is an economic decline and the impact has been a huge reduction in the size of the community. From 3,000 to 100. There is no work and no way of getting people to go there.

If an all weather road were opened up, we could fish for seven months instead of four and double the amount of fish we catch each year. This would provide an incentive for people to stay. An all weather road would also reduce transportation costs for medi-vac and groceries which are very high. EMO and Search and Rescue are also affected. Communications and connectivity strategy go hand in hand and are costly without a road.

The Rice Road is from Seymourville, Berens River and Bloodvein. More priorities should be placed on communities for what should be done. If future development works, the young people need an education.

Recommendation: All Weather Road

- Open up an all weather road to diversify the economy, reduce the high cost of living, improve communications and connectivity and provide an incentive for people to stay.

POLLUTION IN THE LAKE

Impacts from Manitoba Hydro. When a NW wind blows, the water moves to the south. Then the south wind blows and the water moves north, this is how the lake cleans itself. Because of Hydro, there is not enough water movement to clean the lake.

The fish go where there is feed. They have moved to the deeper parts of the lake. It now takes us two hours traveling time by boat to get to where the fish are. This has impacts in regards to the need for equipment, repairs, etc. as well as the increased amount of time. We also lose more nets than we did in the past. The fish itself are good.

COMMERCIAL FISHING

The economy is based on the fishing industry and has been for over 150 years. It is a way of life for the people. Fishing is what they want to do. To reach our quotas, however, fishing is for only 4 months through the fall, winter and spring. The lake quota is 1.5M kilos. In 4 or 5 years we produced 500 – 600,000 kilos.

Regulations restrict us to bringing in the small fish because we are limited to small nets. Prices are down for Whitefish. You get three times as much money for Pickerel so the incentive is to fish for Pickerel.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

We could produce more species if we had a plan together with Freshwater Harbour Authorities. We should try to get a new packing station and process plant. The health of the fish is good. There are two boxes of pickerel to a net. We could try and bring up Saugers, whitefish, and more pickerel.

Conservation hasn't done anything to establish a hatchery. This needs to be expanded.

Also pulp and forestry in the area employs 4 or 5 people from the community. The rest are from outside.

There has been environmental damage and the trapping industry has been wiped out. The costs are too high to trap and the price, too low. People would like to get back to trapping but it is not economically feasible any longer. Tree farming is expensive and takes out 20 pulp cutters.

Recommendation: Economic Development

- Establish a fish hatchery.
- Develop hiring policies to hire locally to keep the youth in the region.

COMMUNITY PLAN

There was a plan being developed for Beren's River about 15 years ago along with a regional plan for the road. These plans have been scrapped.

Recommendation: Community Plan

- Check with INAC and Northern Affairs for the report and consultations that had already been completed.

CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

Government is not listening. What do we need to do in order to be heard? Communities are in the dark. Minister Oscar Lahlin had set up the Round Tables. We need the minutes from meetings and follow up.

Recommendation:

- Ensure minutes from Round Table meetings are provided to communities and there is follow-up.
- Communities to select two people from each community to sit on the Working Groups which report back to the round table.
- Community input should be taken seriously in regards to what should be done in the region.

750 -331 Smith Street
Winnipeg, MB R3B 2G9
Ph: (204) 947-2227 Fax: (204) 947-2446
Toll Free: 1-888-947-6222
E mail: nacc@mb.sympatico.ca

EAST SIDE PLANNING INITIATIVE

Bissett, Manitoba

ISSUES IDENTIFIED

Mining

Boom and bust scenarios are typical of mining communities. The goal for Bissett is to continue the viability of the mine and to carry on with exploration to see potential benefits for future mining development such as gold. However, there are too many restrictions on mining activity to make exploration viable, i.e. Atikaki Wilderness Par, Nopiming Provincial Park

Recommendation: Mining

- Lessen restrictions in designated parks and reserves, corridors and river systems that have an adverse affect on the great mining potential of the area.
- Continue and promote exploration in the area.

Tourism

There is an increase in lodges being developed up north by non residents. As a result, the money doesn't't' stay in the region.

The Parks' initiative has hurt us because it is imposing controls on the area. Access is being restricted from this end of the park and the park itself takes out a big chunk of wilderness. With so many restrictions, the region could be used exclusively by people from outside the area. There should be local access without additional restrictions. We would like the river to stay the way it is. We want to continue to use the river as we have always done and to promote its potential for eco-tourism.

There are pressures to develop remote cottages at the expense of local communities. The day use of the area by local people would be affected. Why not develop the subdivision within Bisset for cabin development? There are 23 lots 100' x 125' at a reasonable cost and suitable space available to develop on Rice Lake. Bissett strongly opposes any new remote cottage allocations due to local availability, pressure on small lake locations and eventual local restricted use.

There is a lot of potential for tourism in the area because of its' locational advantages. Recognizing the potential of the rivers would be essential for the economic well-being of the area. This area could be a destination point for summer and winter sports such as canoeing, fishing, camping and ski doing. As a means to diversify the economy, tourism could be promoted year round. Bissett is self sufficient and can provide lodging, food, air service, groceries, fuel and gas, lumber, equipment contractors. Is the government going to consider the role of local communities in the development of tourism? There would be more sustainable economic development if tourism went through Bissett. We have seen an increase in tour trips.

Recommendations: Tourism

- Develop and promote year round tourism
- Continued upgrading of PR #304
- Develop and promote cottage potential in community
- Put a freeze on cottage development on remote lakes or opening up additional sites on remote lakes
- No exclusive use of water ways, lodges and parks.

Economy

Access to Jobs

Access to jobs is an issue. Students from outside, for example, are brought in to work in the industries. Bunkhouses are needed for the people from out of town. We need to be made aware of the opportunities. There will be no future for the young people if there are no jobs. Local hiring should be a priority and local contractors should be able to bid and apply for procurement opportunities.

Access to logging is a problem because of the restrictions placed on decommissioned roads. Jobs have been lost in the logging sector. People (contractors) are out of work because of the decline in logging opportunities. Fire fighting through the Department of Conservation could be staggered, as well.

Recommendation: Economy

- More consultation for area employment and contract opportunities i.e.: Department of Highways, Department of Conservation, Hydro, Tembec

Consultation

We want to know what is going on and to be kept informed about what is occurring in the region. We are skeptical about how honest the process is; that the decisions have already been made. The timing for these consultation meeting have not been good. There is not much activity here in the winter. People have gone away to find employment. There are currently approximately 90 people living here. At the meeting in the fall, only 20 people showed up. People are interested in getting the feedback from these meetings. Some who are currently away, were the ones asking the questions.

Recommendation: Consultation

- Consultation from all departments on all local and area concerns not just within the established community boundary
- Government needs to acknowledge and take serious local knowledge.

Other Issues:

Environment

Proper clean up of the Wanibigow River system needs to occur. There is erosion of the river banks. There is concern about the garbage and waste management.

Community Plan

There is a community plan for Bisset but it may be outdated in regards to population. Statistics indicate there are approximately people; 7 over 65; 27 between 50 and 65; 38 between 18 – 49 and 22 children.

750 -331 Smith Street
Winnipeg, MB R3B 2G9
Ph: (204) 947-2227 Fax: (204) 947-2446
Toll Free: 1-888-947-6222
E mail: nacc@mb.sympatico.ca

EAST SIDE PLANNING INITIATIVE

Island Lake, Manitoba

ISSUES IDENTIFIED

Consultation and Communication

We currently don't even know what is going on, on the East side.

All Weather Road

The businesses in the area don't expect much change. They are prepared to do whatever they have to to survive. The freight hauling industry, for example, is prepared to cut its operation and change to hauling by truck from the city. The lodge doesn't expect much change and is not concerned. Increased access may be provided by the road but there will be people who will continue to fly in. The airline industry doesn't expect much change either.

The reserve is concerned about alcohol coming in. It would be a long road in any event and the people here are handling it mildly.

Cost of living in this area is high - $4/litre for milk and $12 for cabbage. It is hard to maintain a healthy lifestyle. People are out of the habit of eating healthy since it is cheaper to buy junk food. Local stores can make big profits by taking advantage of the price of freight and mark ups are high. An all-weather road would bring the prices down to be competitive with the cities. During the winter, there are bus-loads which go out for shopping. There are safety hazards associated with this practice as many don't prepare for emergencies and some have been stranded. There are fatalities on the winter road every year.

An all-weather road may increase access to economic development if exclusive on tourism. The traffic may increase and others may get involved.

Environmental Issues

There is a lot of waste and raw sewage being dumped or scattered in the community and the surrounding area. There needs to be initiatives to curb this huge problem with waste disposal in the north.

Recommendation: Environmental Issues

- Design and implement a comprehensive recycling program that would create jobs while cleaning up the environment. The program needs to include an education component and links between communities. An advisory committee needs to include elders from the First Nation.

Community Planning

There is no community plan in place but it is difficult when you are remote. There is water all around and not very much of the land can be developed. There may be potential for tourism.

Most of the area is reserve and First Nation. We don't have too many rights up here. The reserves are ruled by federal laws. Although there are 6% registered MMF, the politics is disorganized.

Economic Development

People are ready to adapt to development. With an increase in economic activity there will likely be an increase to the population. There are lots available but not enough employment to build. Most people are in this community are temporarily here for two – three years such as the RCMP, teachers and nurses. If there were more development, jobs would be created and people would stay longer.

Mining

There is potential for mining everywhere but it is not economically feasible without road access. There were two mines in operation on the islands. If the mines were developed, there would be a boom type situation. To service the mine in God's Lake, there had been a power plant and a village developed on Island River, but they have been deserted.

Forestry

Forestry isn't accessible because of a burn and there is not much mercantile timber left.

Fishing

It is not expected that fishing will be affected much. In the past 4 years, commercial fishing has met their quota – 240,000 # of pickerel. Fish are flown out because they are perishable. Rules and regulations are being tightened up and they need to be followed.

Hiring Policies

Recommendation: Economic and Employment Development

- As development occurs, there should be a policy to target a certain number of local people. Industry and government could provide training and sponsorship for education ahead of time in preparation for the work force required.
- As development occurs, environmental restrictions and regulations should be fully adhered to and enforced.

750 -331 Smith Street
Winnipeg, MB R3B 2G9
Ph: (204) 947-2227 Fax: (204) 947-2446
Toll Free: 1-888-947-6222
E mail: nacc@mb.sympatico.ca

EAST SIDE PLANNING INITIATIVE
Loon Straits, Manitoba

ISSUES IDENTIFIED

Road Safety and Community Access

The existing roads are in poor condition, making them hazardous for local residents. Two kilometers of Tembec's Road, for example, is not maintained for winter conditions which adversely affects the safety as well as access to communities from Loon Straits to the northern reserves.

Recommendations: Road Safety and Community Access

- Upgrade and maintain existing roads.
- Provide an all-weather road to northern communities to ensure access to economic development opportunities, reduce the high costs of food and access to health services.

CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

There has been a lack of consultation or communication regarding any developments in the region. Communities hear about initiatives after the fact.

Recommendation Consultation and Communication

- Appropriate consultation needs to occur.
- Communication needs to occur on all levels, between NACC and the communities, the Ministry and the Secretariat.

750 -331 Smith Street
Winnipeg, MB R3B 2G9
Ph: (204) 947-2227 Fax: (204) 947-2446
Toll Free: 1-888-947-6222
E mail: nacc@mb.sympatico.ca

EAST SIDE PLANNING INITIATIVE
Community Visit, February 25, 2004

Matheson Island, Manitoba

ISSUES & RECOMMENDATIONS

CONSULTATON AND COMMUNICATION

We don't get information about the proposed developments. Nobody knows what is going on and how it affects us on the West Side.

WATER QUALITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

Water Quality

Low water levels are an indication of the damage that Hydro has done. There has been no compensation for the destruction they have caused.

There have been a lot of changes in the lake. Before the flood, there were a lot of fish. Since the flood there are more Saugers. When we have a south current, the water is brown, murky and smells bad. This may be because of the hog farms to the south. When we get a north current, the water is clean and there are a lot of fish. This is the lakes' way of filtering itself.

Chemicals in the fields are also a problem. Nitrates are going into the lake. There are algae blooms at the north end of the lake. Algae settle to the bottom which can affect different species. Whitefish come into our area and spawn at the north end of the lake. There are increases in the number of smelts. Smelts are a high quality feeder fish. Increases in smelts, however, mean that they feed on the spawn of other fish.

Waste Management and Clean Up

Part of our CDE plan is to get a lagoon.

Recommendation: Environmental Issues

- Investigate the environmental problems.
- Stop putting pollutants into the system.
- Follow up with the Board that is studying the effects of Lake Winnipeg.
- Have an on-going dialogue with the Lake Winnipeg study.

EMPLOYMENT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Commercial Fishing

The marketing board controls the commercial fishing industry. There is over fishing on the lake, however, because of the black market. What is on paper is not a true reflection of the fish caught. The First Nation fish are not reported either so there is not a clear indication of the resource.

Economic Development

The development in the area should create jobs for local people yet not affect the wildlife in a negative way. We are concerned about the impacts that might occur to this area when the East is opened up. There will be increased access for anglers, hunters, and cottagers and the land will be used up too quickly.

Road and Transmission Line Development

Road development is important for the remote communities. Is it necessary to have a new road, however, when there is a road already in existence that could be up-graded. Will there be compensation for the trappers if the Hydro line impacts their area?

Recommendation: Employment and Economic Development

- Corridor development should include both the roads and the transmission lines to minimize impact of the forest.

750 -331 Smith Street
Winnipeg, MB R3B 2G9
Ph: (204) 947-2227 Fax: (204) 947-2446
Toll Free: 1-888-947-6222
E mail: nacc@mb.sympatico.ca

EAST SIDE PLANNING INITIATIVE

Norway House, Manitoba

ISSUES & RECOMMENDATIONS

Consultation and Communication

Consultation has been after the fact and once decisions have been made. How much of a say will communities have even if we want to be involved? We will be left out of development when we don't know what is happening. There needs to be on-going regional representation for the East Side through a regional body with equal participation. Communities are at a disadvantage when meeting with corporations and government who have the resources to hire experts and legal advisors.

Hydro started clean up on the 8-mile channel and the 2-mile channel a year ago. Although they are doing an assessment, we have not been consulted nor have we been made aware of the process so that we can get involved. Consultation should not be through the First Nation only. There are environmental issues associated with this but, again, we haven't been consulted.

There have been more Hydro shut downs since the mid 1970s with no formal notification process developed.

Recommendation: Consultation and Communication

- Maintain NACC status on the East Side committees and the planning process. NACC should have a representative there and have it all the time.
- Adequate resources need to be provided for NACC communities to hire their own consultant to work directly on their behalf and on an on-going basis to ensure fairness by leveling the playing field.
- The government needs to be open about development plans.
- Hydro needs to develop appropriate methods and timelines for meaningful consultation with NACC communities.
- Hydro needs to involve NACC communities at the earliest stages of planning for selection of alternative corridor routes for the BiPoll III project.

Economic & Employment Development

Although there has been development in the region, employment rates haven't changed. Recently, for example, Hydro started clean up of contaminated sites and hired only First Nation members. We also want to be involved and access employment. Communities face the following barriers to access economic development, as follows:

Barriers to Economic Development

(a) Divisions Within Communities

Divisions within the communities hinder progress. Members of both communities, for example, have tried tourism, but it hasn't been successful. To make it work, we need to work together to benefit the community as a whole. These kinds of problems need to be raised and dealt with in other forums such as the Tourism Conference. There will be a meeting in May with Reg Meade, President of NACC, where these issues can be brought up.

The First Nation community is expanding due to Bill C31, which will affect access to education and schooling.

(b) Government Regulations

The 'little guys' are being penalized by the structure of government regulations and their enforcement. There will be increases to snow mobile regulations, for example. These regulations are more relevant for the south where snowmobiles are used mostly for recreation. For the north, snowmobiles are a means of transportation, not just recreation. Boats, operators, and their helpers all need licenses now. There is a $200 charge to get registered and to have a safety course and $200 for snowmobiles. Both fees impact the economic activities of fishing and trapping. Both are a form of taxation.

The main economic activities are fishing and trapping. While there may be violations happening with both activities, awareness of the affects and increased enforcement of regulations could help curb conservation and environmental violations.

(c) Jurisdictional Issues

The five groups of NACC, Metis, Bill C31, First Nations and non-aboriginal people create divisions within communities and the region. When the NACC community needs Band support for economic development projects before they are considered by government, for example, we are reliant on the good will of the Band. If the Band has similar projects or if there are personal conflicts, the project may not be supported. In some cases, priority hiring by industry is for one group at the expense of another and this causes divisions. Government and industry, by conducting their affairs in this manner are dividing people and this causes problems ---division within our communities. First/Cree Nation vs Non-Reserve

There are boundary issues. How much authority do we have and what does it mean? We need clarity in regards to the boundaries of NACC communities to give us protection and control over what development occurs within our boundaries. Clarity will provide confidence for our own future development.

(d) Hiring Practices

Larger corporations and companies are involved with the larger scale economic development activities such as logging, mining, farming and hydro development. There has been a habit by crown corporations and industry to hire First Nation members for projects in this region as a priority. Being the minority population, NACC community members are at a disadvantage when it comes to accessing employment opportunities. This situation leads to apathy and many people are discouraged from applying for economic and employment opportunities and this leads to other social problems. To be fair to the people of the region, hiring practices need to be opened up to non-status and off-reserve populations as well.

Recommendation:

Barriers to Employment and Economic Development

- A mechanism needs to be developed collaboratively with NACC, Metis, Bill C31, First Nations, non-aboriginals and government to work together for mutual benefit.
- Research other inclusive models.
- To demonstrate social responsibility, crown corporations and industry conducting business in the north that receive subsidies from either level of government should adopt and enforce employment equity measures to enable equal access and equal opportunity for local and regional employment by NACC community members.

Environmental Issues

Water Quality

What implications will development on the East Side have on Lake Winnipeg as a whole? The Muskeg River is a natural filter. All development is affecting the Lake. Changes have occurred over the years such as increases to the smelt population. There are more smelts now than ever before and they go right up to York Factory. The Whitefish eat the smelts and grow too fast which reduces the quality of the fish. Poorer fish quality along with decreased prices for fish and increased prices in gas threaten the sustainability of the fishing industry.

Protected Areas

Poplar River and Pikangikum are working together to establish a protected area. It is unclear what implications this protected area will have for development.

Maintaining Biodiversity

When regulations are complied with, the economic activities of fishing, hunting and trapping that the aboriginal people are involved with does not destroy the environment. It is the industries in the area that are responsible for extensive environment problems. The area is wetlands and functions as a natural filter. It is environmentally sensitive. What kinds of long-term impacts will occur when there are impacts to this natural filtering system? We need to know what kind of development the government is talking about, and then we can know what the impacts will be.

Environmental Regulations

Larger corporations and companies are involved with the larger scale economic development activities such as logging, mining, farming and hydro development. Accidental spills of raw sewage is hazardous to the environment. There was a recent discharge of raw sewage, for example, into Lake Winnipeg from a plant in Gimli. This posses questions as to whether environmental regulations were enforced or not. Were penalties enforced? Increased raw sewage into the environment affects the health of the people as well as the environment. If this region is opened up for development, government should enforce existing regulations to protect and sustain the environment for future generations. The regulations exist and if not, develop and enforce the necessary regulative measures to protect and sustain the environment.

Recommendation: Environmental Issues

- Corporations and companies not complying with environmental regulations should be charged to discourage environmental damage and encourage sustainable development.
- Corporations should be involved in regional discussions so they can become aware of the community's interests and environmental concerns in the region.
- Conduct studies to determine why the weeds are not growing.
- Document local knowledge; conduct surveys and land use

mapping.

- Impact assessments need to be conducted from a long-term perspective.
- Promote a clean environment.
- Communities need to comply with their operating licenses of lagoons.
- Industry needs to get directly involved in sustainable development initiatives.
- Increased enforcement by appropriate agencies should take place to discourage violations of conservation and environmental regulations and policies.

Clean Up

Local residents, commercial fishers and trappers owning and using cabins should be encouraged to dispose their garbage in appropriate landfill sites. The habit has been for people to toss their garbage out of the cabin and leave it on the ground in and around the cabin, leaving the area untidy and dirty. Garbage is also disposed along the shoreline of the waterways and lakes.

Recommendation: Clean Up

- NACC communities need to get involved in Hydro initiatives regarding environmental clean up.
- Regulations need to be enforced by the appropriate agencies to stop and control poor waste disposal habits.

750 -331 Smith Street
Winnipeg, MB R3B 2G9
Ph: (204) 947-2227 Fax: (204) 947-2446
Toll Free: 1-800-947-6222
E mail: nacc@mb.sympatico.ca

EAST SIDE PLANNING INITIATIVE

Pine Dock, Manitoba

ISSUES IDENTIFIED & RECOMMENDAITONS

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

(a) Water Quality

The watershed of the Broad Area Plan flows into Lake Winnipeg as does the Saskatchewan River which flows from Alberta through Saskatchewan. Lake Winnipeg has been used as a sewer dump for a long time. There is talk about building an all weather road, the hydro line and increases to tourism. With increased development on the east-side, there is danger for increased pollution of the lake and water quality can be affected. There are already changes in the pickerel. Because of conditions in the lake, there are already more pickerel than whitefish.

(b) Waste Management

With increased industrial development there will be population increases along with increases in the number of cottage owners and campgrounds. Waste Management is a concern.

(c) Spraying of Chemicals

There has been increased spraying of chemicals by outfitters to keep the mosquito population down and Hydro also sprays their transmission line. What are the implications in the long run?

(d) Environmental Protection

There is an ore body that runs from Flin Flon to Bisset with the potential for mining to increase. Although there are rules for the mining industry to protect the environment, rules and regulations are often broken. Industrial development and pollution affects the wildlife.

(e) Global Warming

There is a shorter haul now-a-days to get things in and out of the north.

Recommendations: Environmental Issues

- The quality of the water needs to be monitored to sustain the fishing industry.
- Maintain the wildlife in the area.
- Try to keep from spraying chemicals.

ROAD DEVELOPMENT

In general, we support development of a road on the east side. It would have a positive impact for the northern communities by reducing transportation costs. An all-weather road could also bring in traffic all around.

A road on the east side could negatively impact the businesses and communities on the west side, however. Air lines, for example, operate because there is no road on the east side. The road on the west side needs to be widened and maintained as well.

Recommendation: Road Development

- As an interim measure, build a road from Poplar River to Island Lake. Supplies/materials could be barged to Poplar River and then over to Island Lake. This approach would reduce transportation costs for the northern communities a lot sooner.

ECONOMIC IMPACTS

A new road on the east side will open up the whole area. What will the development be? There are problems associated with boom and bust scenarios such as happened in Uranium City, Bisset, and Lynn Lake. What effects will industrial development have on the small places? There are still a lot of questions with no answers at this point.

We are entering an era of broad industrial expansion and the danger is that small communities and their livelihoods will be affected. There could be impacts to Riverton, for example, regarding their future development. The co–op is already down 20% and Riverton is already feeling this impact.

With increased industrial development there will be population increases along with increases in the number of cottage owners and campgrounds. What control will the communities have?

There are economic spin offs because of the fishing industry. If the fishing industry is negatively impacted, the spin off businesses will be impacted as well.

Recommendations: Economic

- Policies should be developed where new cottage development should locate within communities that have boundaries to provide a tax base for that municipality.
- Any disposition has to be approved by community council.

CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

There has been a lack of consultation or communication regarding any developments in the region. Communities hear about initiatives after the fact.

Recommendation Consultation and Communication

- Appropriate consultation needs to occur.
- Communication needs to occur on all levels, between NACC and the communities, the Ministry and the Secretariat.

COMMUNITY BENEFIT

Hydro is planning on selling power to Ontario and the Federal Government gains revenue through GST from this area.

What control will communities have with the increased industrial development, increases in population and increases in the number of cottage owners and campgrounds?

Recommendation: Community Benefit

- We need to be involved and have a say.

OTHER ISSUES

Membership on the Round Table
Sustainable Living

Recommendation: Other Issues

- Communities should choose the people to sit on the round table. They should not be appointed.
- Increase understanding and promote sustainable living concepts.

750 -331 Smith Street
Winnipeg, MB R3B 2G9
Ph: (204) 947-2227 Fax: (204) 947-2446
Toll Free: 1-888-947-6222
E mail: nacc@mb.sympatico.ca

EAST SIDE PLANNING INITIATIVE

Princess Harbour, Manitoba

ISSUES IDENTIFIED & RECOMMENDATIONS

Commercial Fishing

During the East Side meetings, everything is mentioned except fishing, yet fishing is significant to the economy of Manitoba. The product is being shipped all over the world, to Denmark, Sweden, western and eastern Europe. There are a lot of people involved. Not only the fishermen, but most people around the lake earn their money because of fishing. Suppliers, boat builders, shippers, exporters, gas, oil, food, health services and the freight going into the communities all benefit. Cottage lot development and outposts are small in comparison and there are limits to the sustainability of forestry and tourism for any length of time. In the forestry sector, as well, there is only cutting and trucking that is now being done.

The commercial fishing industry seems to be overlooked in the East Side process. Perhaps it is being taken for granted, that it will always be here. The water quality, however, is going down hill and it is harder to get fish. There is a lot of algae growth in the summer. A university study, Namajo, indicated that at the north end of the lake there is 2' near the bottom where there is no oxygen. Most fish feed and spawn on the bottom and without oxygen sustainability of the fish is in jeopardy. There is too much sewage being dumped into the lake. We are also concerned about the increase in anglers and that they will take over. Lake Winnipeg, however, is not a good angling lake.

Recommendation: Commercial Fishing

- Gather the data and study the economic significance of commercial fishing for the Province of Manitoba to show how important it is to the economy of the province. Determine how much fish is sold and what is the multiplier effect?
- Commercial fishing needs to be considered as a main stay and a priority. The viability of the industry and the sustainability of the resource must be ensured.

Recommendation: Water Quality

- Maintain water quality and recognize its link to a sustainable economy in the Province of Manitoba

Consultation and Communication

There has been a consistent lack of consultation overall. The current approach of 'information giving' is not sufficient. Meetings that we have attended for the East Side have been cut and dry. We are not asked for our input, just told what is going to be happening. Everything is already decided before the meeting is called. We don't get any background before hand and it is the same rhetoric time after time. We have been talking about the same issues for 25 or 30 years and it doesn't seem to go anywhere. Once the meeting is over, we are provided with a report from government. Their minds had already been made up. Nothing we say is reflected in those reports.

Everyone is now being divided into groups that only get people fighting over issues. The government then does what it wants. It may work for the short term, but it doesn't win any favours in the long run. People are skeptical about what government is doing. We need to work as one.

There is inconsistency with the members on the round table as well as with those attending from the communities. Time is spent bringing people up to date and a lot of time is wasted.

Government will ultimately have the last say. It may be cynical, but nothing has happened over the last 25 years. What will happen when there is a change in government? Will all this work be shelved, anyway?

Recommendation: Consultation and Communication

- There needs to be consistency with members on the Round Table, the various committees and the people attending from the communities.

- An appropriate and comprehensive consultation process needs to be developed where community input is taken seriously.

All Weather Road

The road that is being talked about will go where industry wants it, either for pulp or for mining. If there is money to pave a road, #234 should be paved. That is the road that is used by everyone on the east and west side of the lake as well as from the north. Businesses are located on the west side as well as services such as hospitals, doctors and personal care facilities. People have been using these services for years and are not likely to change their doctors, hospitals, or where they do business. The road on the west side needs to be upgraded and maintained for access and safety.

Another question is how the building of a new road will affect the fish and their spawning grounds? Impact assessments should be done but past assessments don't seem to mean anything, anyway. Government does what it wants.

Recommendation: All Weather Road

- As a priority, pave and maintain #234 for access of services and businesses and for the safety of the people on the east and west side of the lake and from the northern communities.

750 -331 Smith Street
Winnipeg, MB R3B 2G9
Ph: (204) 947-2227 Fax: (204) 947-2446
Toll Free: 1-888-947-6222
E mail: nacc@mb.sympatico.ca

EAST SIDE PLANNING INITIATIVE
Seymourville, Manitoba

ISSUES IDENTIFIED

CONSULTATION & COMMUNICATION

Consultation with communities by government and industry has not been effective. We usually hear about initiatives after the fact. We need to be consulted on all projects and kept informed on an on-going basis.

Recommendations: Consultation & Communication

- The new Aboriginal Affairs Committee of cabinet should ensure that the NACC communities are not forgotten.
- The inter-departmental group needs to keep the Round Table informed of all activities on the east side on an on-going basis.

COMMUNITY and REGIONAL PLANNING

(a) Community Planning

The community of Seymourville will be incorporating and thereby have better control. There needs to be short and long term planning that maintains some type of guidelines and restrictions for development. A comprehensive plan needs to be prepared to deal with economic development and land use issues. Expert assistance is required to facilitate and provide advice regarding the development of a community vision and action plan through a general community meeting, document preparation and plan implementation.

A land use study needs to be conducted within our boundary and surrounding area.

(b) Regional Co-ordination

The regional round table [Nopiming United Round Table (NURT)] has been allocated monies for all the local communities and First Nations to work together on common economic development issues. Pine Falls has also promised money for NURT activity. Up to this point, NURT hasn't been taken seriously. It is important to have regional as well as community meetings to identify the effects and impacts on the larger area. A regional perspective will provide input regarding what we see from the larger picture as part of the continuing Round Table process.

(c) Impact Assessments

Assessments of impact need to be conducted on proposed developments before they proceed to determine if that is what we want.

(d) Community Boundaries

Establishment of NACC communities occurred during the 1970s under the Schreyer government. To date, surveys to clarify community boundaries have not been done.

Recommendations: Community and Regional Planning

- ESPI needs to support and encourage the development of community plans.
- Communities need to attain appropriate expertise to assist with the development of their community plans.
- Land use studies need to be conducted within community boundaries and the surrounding area.
- Every effort needs to be made to include the regional round tables in planning initiatives.
- A regional vision needs to be developed collaboratively with all players.
- Impact assessments need to be conducted before developing the east side.
- Legal surveys need to be completed for all NACC communities.

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

(a) Contaminants

Chemical spraying by Hydro and the Department of Highways contaminates the vegetation and fish consumed by local people. Calcium on the roadways ends up in the lake.

(b) Waste Management

Sewage is being dumped on the side of the road by the cottagers.

(c) Biodiversity

Erosion has resulted in the loss of the beach that had been used by locals for recreation. The water level is low and the area is now full of clay.

Clear-cutting in Ontario forced the marten to migrate to this region – they have since migrated elsewhere.

Recommendations: Environmental Issues

- Water quality needs to be maintained and monitored.
- Regulations for sewage disposal need to be developed and clearly communicated to cottagers through signage and pamphlets to raise awareness.
- Enforcement mechanisms for waste disposal need to be developed to ensure compliance.
- Bio-diversity in the region needs to be maintained through appropriate study and consultation for sustainable development.

ALL WEATHER R0AD

(a) Safety and Community Access

The roads are in poor condition, making them hazardous for local residents. Two kilometers of Tembec's Road, for example, is not maintained for winter conditions which adversely affects the safety as well as access to communities from Loon Straits to the northern reserves.

(b) Access to Opportunities

Opening up the land on the East Side will increase access to economic and employment opportunities to improve the economic well-being of communities.

(c) Reduction of Costs

The current high costs of transportation also contribute to the poor health of the region due to the high costs to purchase the fresh produce that contributes to healthy diets. There are also high costs associated with flying to Winnipeg and staying in the city to access health services.

Recommendations: All Weather Road

- Maintain existing roads.
- Provide an all-weather road to northern communities to ensure access to economic development opportunities, reduce the high costs of food and access to health services.

TRADITIONAL LIFE STYLE

There is a danger of a lot of recreational development with cottages and tourism that affects hunting. It must be remembered that 96% of the people living in this region are First Nation.

Recommendation: Traditional Life Style

- Protect Aboriginal and Treaty Rights by maintaining hunting, fishing, trapping and gathering.

HEATH & SOCIAL ISSUES

The poor health on the East Side is four times higher when compared to the rest of the province. High costs of transportation for food and health services contribute to the poor health of the region.

There is a lack of education and increasing social problems.

Recommendation: Heath and Social Issues

- Open up the land on the East Side with appropriate study and consultation for sustainable development to increase access to opportunities to improve the well-being of communities and to reduce the high costs for food and health services.

Appendix 8.6

Reports of Meetings & Elders

Summary of Elders Concerns

St. Theresa Point First Nation
February 17, 2003

- Hunting and trapping issues are a main concern. Before the settlement occurred in the area there were plenty of wildlife, however, since the arrival of our white brothers, animals have been driven away.
- At Warrington Lake, fish eventually died with pollution from settlement.
- Outsiders have essentially stolen our livelihood and means of supporting ourselves.
- There is not enough information coming into the communities regarding government initiatives and actions.
- Deadlines should not be imposed if we are to do a good job and make everyone aware.
- The plan implementation may impact the area significantly, eg. Environment, habitat, balance of the eco-system.
- We need education programs, information on co-management, resource information, and health programs.
- We need to preserve our languages and make partnerships and pay royalties to trappers who own traplines.
- Burial grounds need to be respected.
- First Nation wants the department to take an inventory of all traditional sites in the area for mapping and site protection.

Wasagamack First Nation
February 18, 2004

- Lack of respect for terms and conditions of treaties.
- There is conflict between development and traditional way of life.
- Sodom and Gomorra behavior respecting land use.
- There is no respect for Trap-lines.
- Wild meat tastes different from years ago.
- Lodge owners need to consult with First Nations when brining in hunters into traditional areas.

- **Is there hidden agenda with Hydro proposals?**
- **We need to work co-operatively to make right decisions and hope consultation continues so all could benefit including youth.**
- **Trapping is still an integral part of the way of life and needs to be strengthened.**
- **There is oil spills from mining activities, and these need to be cleaned up.**

Red Sucker Lake First Nation
February 19, 2004

- **Treaty rights are not honored regarding land use sharing and hunting rights.**
- **Ancestors graves not respected, should be protected and sacred lands.**
- **Current welfare regimes are conditioning people to rely on this on a long term basis. Healthy lifestyles are replaced with modern conveniences such as cars and skidoos.**
- **Chief welcomes consultation and indicated it is a step in the right direction. First Nations should have an approval role either through co-management or a protocol agreement.**
- **Revenue sharing should be discussed and made part of the plan.**
- **We want to know why there was no consultation before with the creation of the parks.**
- **We cannot use our own trees for what we want. This is our resource. We are continually harassed for trying to sustain ourselves and NRO's confiscate our equipment.**

Little Grand Rapids
February 23, 2004

- **First Nation hunters are not allowed to use Hunting Cabins in the area.**
- **Is the construction and improvement of the airport be part of the planning initiative.**
- **We do not hear anything regarding the all year round road and the airport that were to be built.**
- **When and what process will Manitoba Hydro use to construct their lines.**

- We have concerns about our trap-lines and businesses making money on our traditional areas.

Little Black River
December 5, 2003

- The concern is that monies made by companies and the government from extracted resources are not shared with the First Nations in the area. We as first nation and other communities want to do our own planning on the east side but we need monies to hire consultants.
- One project would be clear cutting and the subsequent responsibility of restoration. This process affects the whole environment. Times are changing and Anishinaabe people should approach the province on the issue of compensation for loss of use on traditional land.
- The treaties should be taken seriously and look at the traditional territories-along the river
- We need to review and define treaty five. We need financial support to be able to review the treaties.
- Is the proposed BI-pool project following same line? We understand all of this was started before any consultation.
- We understand the all weather road is coming in. There is concern regarding the traffic and the affects to the communities.
- We need workshops and information as how to deal with new way of life and the effects of influx of people. We need to listen to what our elders saying. The leaders of the community have to offer new ideas on how to deal with this matter.
- Another concern is cottage development in the Whiteshell area. There are approximately 40 to 50 raw sewage systems draining into the waters. We feel the government should not allow new developments to non-native. Some of these initiatives should be used to foster economic development especially within traditional territories.
- We were not in favor of the road unless we have a say as to how It will be managed. The fear we have is project will destroy wildlife, trees and other plants. We must also talk about the revenues of the project. We want to be involved.
- The main concern we have is the clear-cutting done by Tembec. When this is done, the same type of trees should be planted and we want to recommend that there should be no new clear

cutting allocations. We also recommend that restoration take place to restore past damages to lands in the cutting or permitted lands and protection of our land, trees, water and plants.

Little Grand Rapids Community
December5, 2003

- Our traditional way of life is still very valuable to us. We need to be assured that all the forest will not be destroyed. What will happen in the future to our children? Future generations will not find any trees to build and heat houses.
- We believe traditional medicines are being destroyed by chemicals they use to kill undesired brush.
- We stand by the treaties, which were signed in 1874. Our elders never sold the land and yet to this day there is no presently no arrangement to share the resources or gain any revenues from the resources.

Bloodvien First Nation
December 5, 2003

- In our community we wish to stop the land, wildlife and plants destruction, We have many people living off land in the way of trapping and fishing. Wild berries and wild rice is main source of food for many of our people
- Our creator gave us this land and we must act as protectors and not allow it to be destroyed. We must preserve it for the generations to come. We must do this in unity.
- We are concerned about the young people who are receiving social assistance. The work ethics and desire to become self-sustaining must be revived.
- One person would like to see the road go through to reduce the cost of goods particularly food items. The cost of living on isolated communities is unbearable.
- The government or who ever constructs the all weather road must take every precaution to protect the environment.
- The concerns and recommendations from these communities Must be taken seriously and involve people who reside in these communities.

Sagkeeng First Nation (Fort Alexander)
December 5, 2003

- Sagkeeng would like to share their experiences for the people living north in the planning area when the all weather road goes through. Some of the experiences they have encountered when the road went through their community were alcohol and drug related problems, heavy traffic, dusty conditions and youth problems and disruption of livelihood, particularly, hunting and trapping. People were more attracted to move away from the reserve and affected traditional values were lost.
- There was a concern that not enough information is given to people in these communities, especially when projects are taking place. We need to make sure governments take time to inform people what the plans are.

Hollow Water & Little Black River Recommendations: December 5, 2003

- Protect and preserve environment as much as possible.
- Elder's consultation and involvement in the planning process.
- Revenues from resource should go to communities.
- Help restore traditional way of life in the area.
- Open communication between communities and the governments.
- We would like to see more workshops in the future.

Comments made by Oji-Cree Elders on December 5, 2003:

- Not sure if we should dialogue with the provincial government as our Treaties are with the Queen Mother
- The (ESPI) Video states we should get involved but we are cautious about sharing our knowledge without a formal process as to how this information will be utilized.
- It also states our Treaty Rights will be recognized and yet the province has done little to do so in the past. Why will things change?
- We cannot give up hope, as this will have a huge impact on future generations.

- In the end the government will be judged by its actions and not it's promises.
- Government should come out and see the impacts that exist currently so it has something to measure against future activities.

1) What do you see as the greatest social and economical challenges facing *your community*?

- Lack of employment opportunities for our people. This has led to alcohol, drug and substance abuse. There are also numerous instances of family abuse, which we never had before.
- The youth are not participating in our traditional activities.
- Foreign things are brought into our community without any thought as to the impact. Satellite dishes, computers, video games. There are good and bad things in all of society, the elders know this and these things were introduced without explaining the bad. The negative impact of such things.
- Our lifestyles have changed and we are suffering for this. We need to try and get back to how we were. Before we used to be healthy by living off the land and today we can't or we won't.
- We need to stress to our youth the importance of things such as education and the importance of being active.
- You cannot differentiate us from the land, what is done to the land is done to us. People in the south as well as governments do not recognize this, for if they did they wouldn't allow what has happened to us. I don't think they would allow these things to happen to their families. We don't either, but we've been powerless.

2) How do you see the ESPI process assisting your community?

- We cannot fully answer this question because this is the first time we've been asked to participate and to be heard in this process.
- There are already a lot of things that are having a negative impact on us as a people. I hope this can assist our communities to correct the past wrongs and to ensure they do not repeat the same mistakes.
- We need to consult all members of our communities so everybody is aware of the process.
- Information has to be translated into syllabics so the elders can read the information and be able to offer advice when information is sent out to the communities.

3) What role do you see for the Elders in the ESPI?

- Elders should be recognized and acknowledged for their contribution as keepers of the knowledge of the previous generations.
- A process should be identified to protect the sanctity of the TEK before all of it is shared.
- Elders need to be informed of the processes to allow them time to disseminate information before they can offer advice.
- We need to be allowed more time than currently allocated for us to be effective.
- The interaction of youth and elders has to be brought back into our way of thinking, without our input our youth are/will be lost.

4) What actions in the (short, medium, long term) need to be taken to improve conditions in the First Nation communities?

- We need to inform our people of what is going on.
- There has to be recognition of the Elders and the knowledge they possess and to be utilized more effectively.
- We need to stress the importance of education and traditional values to our youth. It is important to have knowledge of both and to have balance.
- All information has to be shared; partial knowledge of a process is not beneficial to anyone.
- There has to be an ongoing process for our involvement
- We need to respect each other in order to be effective.
  Sun rises with today's purpose and the sun set gives you time to reflect on what you've done.

2 Elders from each community participating
Manto-Sipi Cree Nation
Bunibonibee Cree Nation
God's Lake First Nation
Norway House First Nation

- I am concerned with the view of environmentalists. We agree that the environment must be protected but we also need development in our communities and areas.
- What about the Memorandum of understanding (M.O.U.) with Poplar River and others? Where does that leave us as we attempt to use this process.

- Video is not revealing the issues of the community. Video should include objectives of the process and examples of how mining and timber harvesting will change nature. Elders require more information.
- There were concerns with water quality. Recently, for example, snow color is changing. Elders believe development does change nature but don't know to what extent the damage is. We would like to see this planning take its time so we know the extent of any damage to the environment. We need to do this for our children.
- Nobody ever mentions how hydro projects were going to destroy our water and environment. We can't drink water or eat fish from our water. Moose, muskrat and beaver don't taste the same anymore. God didn't destroy the land, hydro did. Elders must have more meetings to plan to do something about it.
- As a young person I was able to eat anything, it is not like that anymore.
- With roads built to the north, how will it impact on the environment? I suppose people would benefit by reducing costs.
- I request more meetings to learn what is going on with this planning. A one day meeting of Elders is not enough.
- There are a lot of implications to planning. More information is needed on the broad area planning. We have to know what governments are doing. Change and development is creating change in our community. I realize we have to live within means, however, our traditional way of life is still important but is difficult. Gasoline has increased but our income has not. Although the hydro line promised a decrease in price it never happened. Impact of hydro line has never been considered.
- We must do something now about the conditions faced in our communities today.
- Would like to have seen the purpose and intent of meeting beforehand. This will have an impact on our way of life.
- Government response is always slow when it comes to forest fires.
- We see the benefit a road to the communities would bring. High prices take up all our allowances for food.
- We use to make a living on commercial fishing. This is not possible today.
- Hydro put a line through my trapline and paid me a small amount.
- Governments today have authority over everything and interfere with what we do. Especially over our traditional way of life.
- Hydro it seems has had a negative impact, new sicknesses and diseases exist that we never experienced before.
- Younger generations have a hard life today and it is difficult to try teaching them.
- There is a cost to our community for development and it affects our community negatively.

- **The government has to be willing to let us be main players in this process.**
- **When hydro was put in we were told costs would go down but now we pay more for hydro costs than people do in the south.**
- **We need to gain something from this process. There are a lot of barriers that have to be torn down.**
- **We need to be given an opportunity at long term investment. Governments use us. This is an opportunity.**
- **There is a University professor who said that the treaties override all other authority or development.**
- **I feel we have the capacity to make changes in our communities.**
- **We need to revisit that video with more examples, what planning? What impacts? We need to reveal all this. What forestry and mining activities are there going to be? Where are potential tourism sites? What studies on fisheries have been done? What about the winter road, how far is it going? What about hydro? We hear one thing and Ontario hears another.**
- **We need this info, but at the same time this is a government initiative. Governments now realize that partnerships with First Nations have to be arranged.**
- **Tourism will only benefit outsiders. Hunters only take the antlers. Forestry only takes what they need and leave the rest of the trees lying there.**
- **They are using us for their gain. Yet they use our knowledge for their gain. If we want to work in partnership we need more dialogue. Many people can't read the information in English.**
- **What insights will Elders input have with other experts, or do we need to hire biologists before governments will listen?**
- **I was hoping to have more discussion on the process. What is the broad area plan? I hope this can be discussed when the secretariat comes to our community.**
- **Elders from communities should be involved in every meeting.**

7

Appendix 8.7

Memorandum of Understanding

PROVINCE OF
MANITOBA

SIGNATORY
FIRST NATIONS

BROAD AREA PLANNING INITIATIVE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

THE SIGNATORY FIRST NATIONS LOCATED
WITHIN THE EAST SIDE PLANNING AREA

OF THE FIRST PART

AND

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN IN RIGHT OF THE
PROVINCE OF MANITOBA AS REPRESENTED BY
THE MINISTER OF CONSERVATION
(Hereinafter Referred to as "The Province")

OF THE SECOND PART

WHEREAS, the parties agree to work together on a Protocol that parties will follow throughout the East Side Planning process and the implementation of recommendations arising out of the final report due in June, 2004. The protocol will serve as a foundation for First Nations communities within the east side to be involved in decisions that will affect their communities and traditional territories;

WHEREAS, in July 2000, the Province announced its acceptance of the *Consultation on Sustainable Development Implementation (COSDI)* Report which recommended, among other things, that the implementation of sustainable development include the creation of broad area plans in the province;

WHEREAS, on August 9, 2000 the Province announced that the government would initiate broad area planning on the east side of Lake Winnipeg as a pilot for broad area planning for the province;

WHEREAS, it is the objective of east side planning process to bring together local communities, First Nations, industry and environmental organizations to develop a vision for land and resource use in the area that respects both the value of the boreal forest and the needs of the local communities;

WHEREAS, the Final Report of Phase 1 of the East Side Lake Winnipeg Broad Area Planning Initiative recommends that the east side plan recognize, affirm and be in compliance with treaty obligations and aboriginal rights and be consistent with the consultation/protocol guideline recommendations of the *COSDI REPORT* respecting First Nation and Aboriginal peoples;

WHEREAS, the East Side First Nations Council was established to facilitate First Nations participation in the planning process;

WHEREAS, the planning area is within Treaty 1, 3, 5 and First Nations traditional territories;

WHEREAS, the members of the Council have approved Terms of Reference to guide their participation;

WHEREAS, the Province desires the First Nations to participate in the planning process;

THEREFORE, the parties agree to work together in a spirit of mutual recognition, respect and reconciliation to achieve the objectives and goals of the East Side Broad Area Use Planning Initiative.

1. PRINCIPLES

The Parties commit to each other to abide by the following principles:

1.1. the relationship is on a government to government basis;

1.2. the First Nations peoples are the original inhabitants of the area;

1.3. the planning area is within Treaty 1, Treaty 3 and Treaty 5; therefore the Province is bound by the terms of those Treaties and principles of treaty interpretation as enunciated by the courts;

1.4. according to the Elders, the First Nations by signing the Treaties agreed to share benefits from the land and share power on the land;

1.5. in addition to their treaty rights, the First Nations peoples living within the planning area have aboriginal rights that are inherent in them as First Nations peoples and as the original inhabitants of the area;

1.6. the First Nations peoples living in the planning area have traditional territories;

1.7. treaty and aboriginal rights are protected in s. 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982;

1.8. the First Nations assert that the Province has fiduciary obligations to First Nations peoples within their sphere of jurisdiction according to the Canadian constitutional framework;

1.9. based on developing case law relating to s. 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982, Manitoba recognizes that it has a duty to consult in a meaningful way with the First Nations peoples. This process does not replace the government's obligation to meaningfully consult with First Nations on any future developments in the East Side Planning Area;

1.10. by participating in this process, First Nations do not consent to future developments arising out of the recommendations and that this participation is neither intended nor should it be used to fulfill any legal obligations of the Province now or in the future;

1.11. certain First Nations living in the planning area have traditional uses and other interests in land outside the planning area;

1.12. the First Nations have acknowledged the shared responsibility of looking after the land in their territory;

1.13. both parties acknowledge and recognize the role of elders as carriers of the teachings and traditions of the First Nations;

1.14. according to the elders, one cannot separate the people from the land and the land from the people.

2. OBJECTIVE

2.1. The parties agree to work together on a Protocol that the parties will follow throughout the East Side planning process and the implementation of recommendations arising out of the final report. The protocol will serve as a foundation for First Nations communities within the east side to be involved in decisions that will affect their communities and traditional territories.

3. PROCESS

The Parties agree that:

3.1. a working group comprised of representatives of the First Nations Council and the Province of Manitoba has been established to develop a draft memorandum of understanding;

3.2. the First Nations representatives will convene a meeting of the First Nations Council to discuss the draft memorandum of understanding. Then each First Nations Council member will take the draft memorandum of understanding to their respective Chief and Councillors;

3.3. the Province of Manitoba representatives will submit the draft memorandum of understanding to Ministers.

3.4. the working group will convene to finalize the memorandum of understanding;

3.5. the working group will submit recommendations to Cabinet and to each Chief and Councillors.

3.6. the Province of Manitoba and the First Nations will meet to sign the Memorandum of Understanding.

4. TERM

4.1. The Parties agree that the term of this memorandum of understanding commences upon the signing of the memorandum of understanding by both Parties and unless terminated sooner, ends when a protocol is developed and agreed upon.

5. TERMINATION

5.1. This memorandum of understanding may be terminated by either Party by giving written notice of ninety (90) calendar days before the effective date of termination.

6. AMENDMENT

6.1. This memorandum of understanding may be amended by written agreement of the Parties.

7. NOTICE

7.1. Any notice given pursuant to this memorandum of understanding shall be made in writing to:

The Province:
Minister, Manitoba Conservation

First Nations Council:
To each signatory of this agreement

Signed this__________ day of _____________, 2004.

FOR THE FIRST NATIONS COMMUNITY:

______________________________	______________________________
Chiefs, Signatory First Nations	Witness

FOR THE PROVINCE:

______________________________	______________________________
Minister, Manitoba Conservation	Witness

8

Appendix 8.8

ESPI Participants

East Side Planning Initiative

Round Table, First Nation Council, Advisory Committee, Government Review Panel (Phase I), Secretariat and Government Liaison Committee

National Chief Phil Fontaine – Chair

Mr. Ed Wood – Associate Chair

East Side Round Table

The Right Honourable Edward Schreyer - Special Advisor

Mr. Al Benoit
Mr. Dan Benoit (Alternate)

Mr. Paul Chief

Mr. Don Courchene

Ms. Sherry Dangerfield

Mr. Helgi Einarsson

Mr. Ken Ellison

Mr. Wesley Harper

Mr. Ed Huebert

Mr. Peter Kinew

Mr. Gilbert Knott

Mr. Mike Martel

Dr. Peter Miller

Chief Vera Mitchell

Mr. Tom Nepetaypo

Dr. David Punter

Mr. Don Sullivan

Mr. Jim Ticknor

Ms. Cherry White

Chief Nancy Whiteway

East Side First Nation Council

Hilda Flett	Berens River First Nation
Frank Young Dwayne Bushie (Alternate)	Bloodvein First Nation
Chief Bailey Colon	Bunibonibee Cree Nation
Jack Fiddler	Garden Hill First Nation
Chief Gilbert Andrews	God's Lake First Nation
Chief Larry Barker, succeeded by Chief Ian Bushie Ferlon Barker (Alternate) Rene Barker (Alternate)	Hollow Water First Nation
Jonas Peebles	Little Black River First Nation
Nelson Keeper	Little Grand Rapids First Nation
Chief Roger Ross, succeeded by Chief Moses Okimaw	Manto Sipi Cree Nation
Jimmock Cromarty	Norway House Cree Nation
Albert Pascal, succeeded by Sheldon Kent	Pauingassi First Nation
Eddie Hudson	Poplar River First Nation
Lawrence Harper, succeeded by Chief Fred Harper	Red Sucker Lake First Nation
Joe Daniels	Sagkeeng First Nation
Roy Mason	St Theresa Point First Nation

Chief Cornelius Wood	Wasagamack First Nation
Simon Fobister Joe Kuhn	Grand Council Treaty #3

East Side Advisory Committee

Note: While other groups were contacted by the East Side Secretariat for membership on the East Side Advisory Committee, no other names were forwarded.

Aboriginal Resource Council	Richard Gaywish
Aghaming Community Council	Bob Bull
Berens River Community Council	Henry McKay & Brian Whiteway
Bissett Community Council	Patti Grapentine
Gods Lake Narrows Community Council	Mayor Leslie Anderson Sr.
Island Lake Community Council	Jerry Bilewitch
Little Grand Rapids Community Council	George Quantrill
Loon Straits	Edgar Bruce
Manigotagan Community Council	Dale Boulette & Greg Wood
Matheson Island Community Council	Harold Bennett & Terry Bennett
Norway House Community Council	Glen Flett
Oxford House Community Council	Tommy Weenusk
Pine Dock Community Committee	Margaret Johnson
Princess Harbour Community Council	Marlene Monkman & Myrtle Magnusson
Red Sucker Lake Community Council	Heather Disbrowe
Seymourville Community Council	Ted Seymour & Brian Lepott
Eastman Regional Development, Inc.	Ron Funk
St Georges Economic Development Council	Dianne Dube

Winnipeg River Brokenhead Futures	Mary Greber
Anishaabe Turtle Island Protectors	Gary Raven
Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society	Krista Scott
Canadian Nature Federation	Gaile Whelan-Enns Jared Whelan (Alternate)
Manitoba Eco-Network	Anne Lindsey
Manitoba Future Forest Alliance	Sara Peloquin
Manitoba Model Forest	Carl Smith
Manitoba Naturalists Society	Les McCann
Northern Lights Heritage Services	Virginia Petch
Resource Conservation Manitoba, Inc.	Liz Dykman
T.R.E.E.	Dr. John Sinclair
Western Canada Wilderness Committee	Ron Thiessen
Canada Wild Rice Council	Lorne Williams
Manitoba Hydro	Wade Munro
Manitoba Prospectors & Developers Association	Ryan Cooke
Manitoba Trappers Association	Stewart Jansson
Mining Association of Manitoba	David Markham
TEMBEC Pine Falls Operations	Vince Keenan
RM of Alexander	George Harbottle
RM of Lac du Bonnet	Bob Bruneau & Don Halbert
LGD of Pinawa	Leonard Simpson
Village of Powerview	Ted Pichor
Island Lake Tribal Council	Chief Goliath Harper

Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak Inc.	Michael Anderson
Manitoba Metis Federation	Dan Benoit
Manitoba Metis Federation Interlake Region	Bill Flett
Manitoba Metis Federation Thompson Region	Lyle Mulholland
Manitoba Metis Federation Southern Region	Marcella Vezina
Southern Chiefs Organization	Dina Bruyere
Manitoba Wildlife Federation	Roger Venton
Manitoba Aviation Council	Fred Petrie
Paddle Manitoba	David Howerter
SnoMan, Incorporated	Duncan Stokes

Phase 1 (August 2000 to March 2002)

Government Review Panel:

Bill Barto

Bruce Bremner

Blair McTavish

Joe Morisseau

Sandy Thompson

Phase 2

East Side Secretariat (March 2002 to July 2003):

Mike Waldram – Executive Coordinator

Bill Anderson

Paulette Delaquis

Joann Hiebert

Barb Hobson

Moses Okimaw

Jennifer Tavares

East Side Secretariat (July 2003 to September 2004)

Peter Globensky – Executive Coordinator

Bill Anderson

Bruce Bruyere

Barb Hobson

Rick Ratte

Dale Sobkowich

Jennifer Tavares

Pat Williamson

Bernie Wood

Government Liaison Committee:

Serge Scrafield

Ron Missyabit

Blair McTavish

Appendix 8.9

Reference Appendices & Locations of Availability

8.9 Reference Appendices & Locations of Availability

Numerous reference sources will assist the continuing development of this report. They can be found in a number of places and have been identified as such next to the listing according to the code below. The ESPI web site is located at: http://www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/eastsideplan/index.html

(R) = Public Registry **(W) = ESPI Web Site**

The list of the references and their location are as follows:

(W & R)	Boreal Forest World Heritage Site Map
(W & R)	Executive Summary of Phase One Report English / Ojibway / Oji-Cree / Cree
(W & R)	East Side Planning Process Brochure
(W & R)	East Side Round Table Terms of Reference
(W & R)	East Side First Nations Council Terms of Reference
(W & R)	Community Reports: "What We Heard" – By Issue
(W & R)	Summary of Departmental Planning Activities
(W)	East Side of Lake Winnipeg First Nations Community Profiles
(W & R)	Report of the Working Groups – Compilation Document
(W & R)	Report of the Open Houses Process
(W & R)	UNESCO "Man and Biosphere" Programme FAQs
(W & R)	Legislation Under Which Areas are Designated Under Manitoba's P.A.I.

Glossary of Terms

- **Aboriginal Peoples** – The definition of "Aboriginal peoples" being used in this document is the legal definition contained in the Constitution of Canada. This includes Indians (on and off reserve Status Indians, First Nations, non-Status Indians, Treaty and non-Treaty Indians), Métis and Inuit.

- **Aboriginal Treaty Rights and Traditional Lands Impact Assessment** – It is necessary to determine the existence of Aboriginal rights and the implications of proposed resource management or development activities on those rights and on the continued use of traditional lands, and whether the approval of the proposal can co-exist with the Aboriginal rights and the continued use of the traditional lands.

- **Area Of Special Interest (ASI)** – These are areas being studied for possible future designation as "protected areas". The studies, utilizing "enduring features" methodology, identify the combinations of soils, geology, climate and landforms (enduring features) that influence biodiversity. The methodology also assesses the contribution of each protected area or ASIs in representing biological diversity within a natural region, and designs study areas to fill gaps in enduring feature and natural region representation. Areas of Special Interest are used to focus consultations and are not protected in any formal manner. In most cases, ASI boundaries are flexible and can be changed to respond to new information.

  According to a protocol established between the departments of Conservation and Industry, Economic Development and Mines, ASIs that meet predetermined criteria are requested in writing by the director of Parks to be placed in a "withdrawal pending" status, meaning that the Crown mineral rights in these areas are not available for new mineral dispositions, pending final resolution of the area's status and future designation of protected lands.

- **Assessment and Review of Effects** – This refers to an assessment and review of all sustainability factors such as environmental, economic, social, cultural and human health. The terms "assessment and review of effects", "assessment and review process", "assessment process", "assessment and review", and "effects assessment" will be used synonymously. The assessment process is generally guided by legislation (such as the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act or Manitoba's Environment Act) which defines both the substantive and procedural requirements, including the scope of the project/undertaking, information requirements, matters to assess and public participation.

- **Biodiversity** – The variability among living organisms from all sources including, among other things, terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems, and the ecological complexes of which they are a part. This includes diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems (Convention on Biological Diversity, 1992).

  Biodiversity has been seen as the total (and irreducible) complexity of all life, including not only the great variety of organisms but also their varying behaviour and interactions. One of the more broadly shared and economically defensible values for conserving wholesale biodiversity (rather than just the few components or 'biospecifics' with obvious high use value at present) may be seen to lie in ensuring continued possibilities both for adaptation, and for future use, by people in a changing and uncertain world (Natural History Museum, Biodiversity and Worldmap website).

- **Boreal Forest (contiguous)** – Canada's boreal forest is the largest contiguous, intact forest left on earth, covering 35 per cent of the country's land mass and stretching across the north from Newfoundland to the Yukon. It includes the east side planning area. These northern forests are the breeding grounds for over 60 per cent of Canada's bird population with approximately three billion birds nesting there annually. The boreal is also home to the world's largest caribou herd, the second-highest wolf population, and polar, black and grizzly bears.

  Thousands of species of plants, insects and animals – most of which have not been scientifically described but many of which have long been used by Aboriginal people for food and medicinal purposes – are found in boreal ecosystems.

- **Boreal Forest Conservation Framework** – The Boreal Forest Conservation Framework reflects the collective wisdom of the Boreal Leadership Council and is based on the best information currently available. The framework is based on a shared vision to sustain the ecological and cultural integrity of the Canadian boreal forest region, in perpetuity.

  The framework's goal is to conserve the cultural, sustainable, economic and natural values of the entire Canadian boreal region by employing the principles of conservation biology to:

  - protect at least 50 per cent of the region in a network of large interconnected, protected areas; and
  - support sustainable communities, world-leading ecosystem-based resource management practices and state-of-the-art stewardship practices in the remaining landscape

  The Boreal Forest Conservation Framework represents a national vision and goal for the region as a whole, rather than a formula to be applied on a unit-by-unit basis in a particular part of the boreal. In promoting a conservation approach for the entire boreal, the framework recognizes that conservation challenges and opportunities will vary. (Canadian Boreal Initiative website)

- **Boreal Shield** – At 195 million hectares the Boreal Shield is the largest ecozone in Canada. It is almost 80 per cent forested and much of the ecozone remains in a wilderness condition. Most of this ecozone is covered with an immense coniferous forest, consisting primarily of black spruce, white spruce, jack pine, balsam fir and tamarack. Further south, red pine, jack pine and eastern white pine occur, along with some hardwoods, such as white birch, yellow birch and trembling aspen. Black ash, mountain maple and eastern white-cedar also grow in some places. Characteristic mammals of this ecozone include woodland caribou, moose, white-tailed deer, black bear, wolf, marten, snowshoe hare, fisher, Canadian lynx and bobcat. Common bird species include the common loon, boreal owl, great horned owl, yellow-rumped warbler, blue jay, evening grosbeak and white-throated sparrow. (Natural Resource Canada website)

- **Broad Area Planning (BAP)** – This is an integrated and coordinated planning that is based on the sustainability of the ecosystem, to ensure future land, resource and development decisions address the environmental, social, health, cultural and economic needs of the public, local communities, First Nations and various stakeholders and interest groups.

- **Canadian Boreal Forest Initiative** – The Canadian Boreal Forest Initiative, or the Canadian Boreal Initiative (CBI), is an independent organization working with conservationists, First Nations, industry and others to link science, policy and conservation activities in Canada's boreal region. On December 1, 2003, the CBI released the Boreal Forest Conservation Framework. The framework was developed in concert with leading conservation organizations, resource companies and First Nations. Convened by the CBI, this group forms the Boreal Leadership Council, committed to the conservation and sustainable development of Canada's boreal forest region. (Canadian Boreal Initiative (CBI) website)
- **Co-Management (Share-management)** – Share-management is a tool that helps address resource management issues and opportunities between government and users by negotiating shared roles and responsibilities, such as involvement in decision-making and monitoring. (Manitoba Conservation)
- **Consultation** – As perceived by COSDI, consultation is the provision of meaningful opportunities for the public, other governments and stakeholders to influence government or other decisions about matters of concern to them. The concept of meaningful consultation is being more specifically defined by the courts as it applies to the nature of the opportunities for Aboriginal people.
- **COSDI** – The Consultation on Sustainable Development Implementation (COSDI) was a multi-stakeholder, consensus-based process commissioned in 1997 by the government to "consider and make recommendations... on how Manitoba can best implement Sustainable Development Principles and Guidelines into decision-making, including environmental management, licensing, land-use planning and regulatory processes". An 18-member core group and 60-member advisory committee collaborated on the preparation of a report with recommendations. The COSDI Report was submitted to government in June 1999. After an election, the current government adopted the report as a central component of its Sustainable Development Strategy in 2000.
- **Double Majority** – In the context of the East Side Broad Area Plan, double majority is a method for decision-making that allows communities to have a strong voice in decisions affecting the areas they live in. In a vote about a decision affecting a particular community, the decision would require both the vote of the community and a majority of the East Side First Nations Council.
- **Ecological Integrity** – Ecological integrity refers to the quality of a natural, unmanaged or managed ecosystem in which the natural ecological processes are sustained, with genetic, species, and ecosystem diversity assured for the future. Ecosystems have integrity when they have their native components intact, including: abiotic components (the physical elements, e.g., water, rocks), biodiversity (the composition and abundance of species and communities in an ecosystem, e.g., tundra, rainforest and grasslands represent landscape diversity; black bears, brook trout and black spruce represent species diversity) and ecosystem processes (the engines that make ecosystems work; e.g., fire, flooding, predation) – Parks Canada website
- **Ecosystem** – A community of all plants and animals and their physical environment, functioning together as an interdependent unit. (forestry)

- **Ecozone** – Canada has been divided into 15 terrestrial ecozones. Each represents areas of the country which can be easily identified by their general living (biotic) and non-living (abiotic) characteristics. The east side of Lake Winnipeg falls within the Boreal Shield ecozone.

- **Effect** – This is a neutral term including positive and negative impacts of a plan or project.

- **Endangered Species** – Manitoba's Endangered Species Act provides for the minister to designate species as endangered, extinct, extirpated or threatened, depending on their number and status. The different designations allow for different levels of protection.

- **Environmental Thresholds** – The environment, as an integrated system, is healthy as long as its components and their interactions are maintained in a state where they can continue to perform their natural functions. If significant changes are made to any components of the system, the efficiency of the system is affected and the environment is thrown off balance. The environment has a degree of resiliency built into it, which gives it the ability to cope with, or adapt to, some change without damaging effects. Environmental thresholds define those allowable changes. Used in planning or assessment purposes, they help decision-makers know what change to the environment will be within the threshold and therefore acceptable, and what change should be avoided. A common threshold is the assimilative capacity of a waterway. How much of a specified substance can be added to a river without altering the characteristics of the river to a degree that it will adversely impact biota, fish, people, etc.? The thresholds can be developed in advance of development, as a part of the planning process, or in response to a proposed development, as a part of the environmental assessment process.

- **Forest Stewardship Council** – The Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) is an international, non-profit organization founded in 1993 to support environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial and economically viable management of the world's forests. It supports the development of national and regional standards to be used to evaluate whether a forest is being well-managed.

  It is an association of members consisting of a diverse group of representatives from environmental and social organizations, forest and product industries, Indigenous People's organizations, community forestry groups and certification bodies from around the world. With its head office in Bonn, Germany, FSC is governed by an elected board.

- **Fragmentation** – Fragmentation occurs when a large region of, in this case, forest has been broken down or fragmented into a collection of smaller patches of habitat. Fragmentation typically occurs when land is converted from one type of habitat to another. For example, a forest habitat may become fragmented when a highway is built across the forest. The highway would split a single, large, continuous patch of forest into two smaller patches. The greater the degree of fragmentation, the greater the effect, as the once large, continuous forest habitat becomes a series of small, disconnected habitats. Because the characteristics of small forests differ from those of large ones, the characteristics of habitat and its suitability for the pre-existing species can change as well.

- **Genetic diversity** – Genetic diversity refers to variety within individuals within a species or a population, or more specifically, the variety of DNA within a species or population.

- **Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC)** – The GLIFWC is an inter-tribal, co-management agency committed to the implementation of off-reservation treaty rights on behalf of its 11 Ojibway member tribes. Formed in 1984, and exercising authority specifically delegated by its member tribes, GLIFWC's mission is to help ensure significant, off-reservation harvests while protecting the resources for generations to come.

- **Guidelines** – They refer to instructions provided to the proponent for the information requirements and the conduct of an effects assessment in Manitoba.

- **Habitat** – 1. Those parts of the environment (aquatic, terrestrial, and atmospheric) often typified by a dominant plant form or physical characteristic, on which an organism depends, directly or indirectly, to carry out its life processes. 2. The specific environmental conditions in which organisms thrive in the wild.

- **High Conservation Value Forest** – All forests contain environmental and social values, such as wildlife habitat, watershed protection or sacred sites. Where these values are considered to be of outstanding significance or critical importance, the forest can be defined as a High Conservation Value Forest (HCVF). The idea of HCVFs was developed by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) and first published in 1999. This concept moves the forestry debate away from definitions of particular forest types (e.g., primary, old growth) or methods of timber harvesting (e.g., industrial logging) to focus on the values that make a forest important. By identifying these key values and ensuring that they are maintained or enhanced, it is possible to make rational management decisions that are consistent with the maintenance of important environmental and social values.

  High Conservation Value Forests are those that possess one or more of the following attributes:

  a. forest areas containing globally, regionally or nationally significant :
    i. concentrations of biodiversity values (e.g., endemism, endangered species, refugia);
    ii. large landscape level forests, contained within, or containing the management unit, where viable populations of most (if not all) naturally occurring species exist in natural patterns of distribution and abundance;
  b. forest areas that are in or contain rare, threatened or endangered ecosystems;
  c. forest areas that provide basic services of nature in critical situations (e.g., watershed protection, erosion control); and
  d. forest areas fundamental to meeting basic needs of local communities (e.g., subsistence, health) and/or critical to local communities' traditional cultural identities (areas of cultural, ecological, economic or religious significance identified in co-operation with such local communities).

- **Impact Benefit Agreement** – Often arising out of a consultation process, agreements can be developed between a proponent of a development and the host community/region, often an Aboriginal community. The agreement can address one

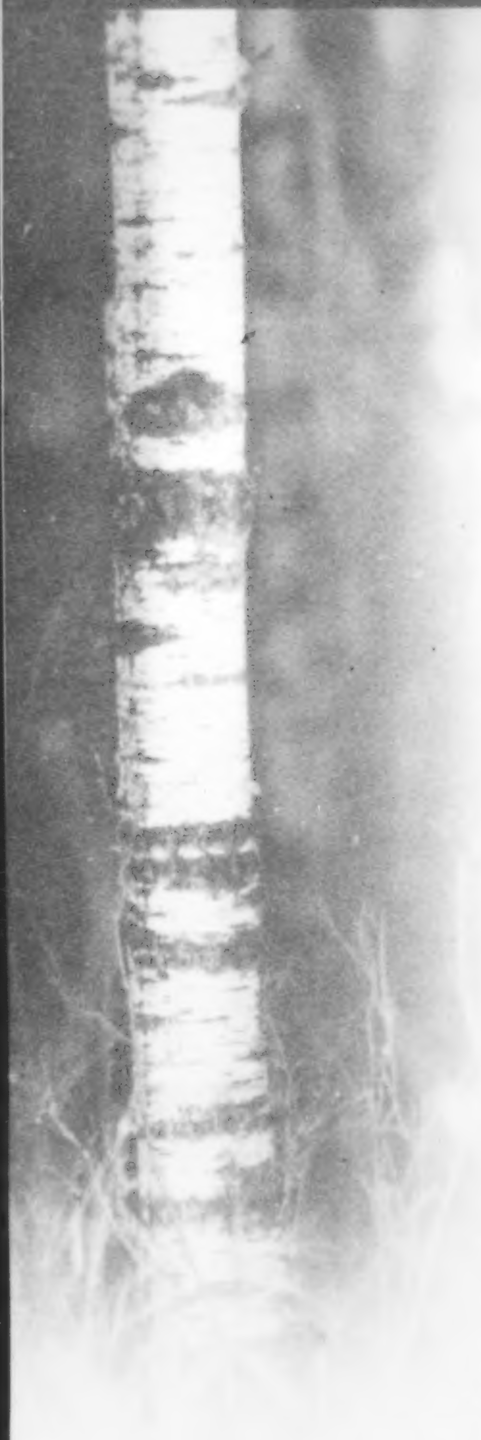
issue, or can be an umbrella agreement covering all the issues respecting the proposed development – environmental, social, and economic.

- **Land-Use Planning** – This refers to the systematic assessment of land and water potential, alternative patterns of land and resource use and other physical, social and economic conditions, for the purpose of selecting and adopting land and resource use options that are most beneficial to land users, without degrading the resources or the environment. Land-use planning also helps with the selection of measures most likely to encourage such land uses. Land-use planning may be at international, national, district (project, catchment) or local (village) levels. It includes participation by land users, planners and decision-makers and covers educational, legal, fiscal and financial measures.
- **Manitoba Model Forest** – The Manitoba Model Forest is a non-profit organization representing over 25 diverse forest interests. The Model Forest brings together environmentalists; industry; all levels of government; local communities, including First Nations; economic development groups; unions; universities; and Aboriginal organizations, to share their knowledge and resources in their mutual quest for sustainable forests. The Manitoba Model Forest comprises 1.05 million hectares of boreal forest that stretches eastward from Lake Winnipeg to the Manitoba-Ontario border.

  Activities in the Manitoba Model Forest include research, development, education and communications on a wide range of subjects, such as:
  - migration patterns of woodland caribou with the purpose of designing a harvesting plan that will protect the animal's habitat;
  - improving inventories of forest resources; and
  - building lasting partnerships among diverse stakeholders.
- **Manitoba Minerals Guideline** – In May 1998, a process was initiated by the Province of Manitoba's Energy and Mines department (now Manitoba Industry, Economic Development and Mines) to bring together representatives of First Nations, Métis Nation, Northern communities and the Manitoba minerals industry to begin a relationship-building process. The purpose of this process continues to be to strengthen the links between parties, learn about common aspirations, cultural values and communication needs, and to create a climate for mutually beneficial opportunities in the building of a strong minerals industry within Manitoba. The document is a guide to facilitate relationship-building between those involved in, or affected by, minerals activity within the province.
- **Manitoba Principles and Guidelines of Sustainable Development** – These are the principles and guidelines of sustainable development as adopted by Manitoba and set out in *The Sustainable Development Act*.
- ***Memorandum of Understanding* (MOU)** – A *Memorandum of Understanding* is one form of written agreement signed by two or more parties. In the case of ESPI, the MOU is preliminary to the negotiation of a protocol that will guide the future relationship between the First Nations on the east side of Lake Winnipeg and the Government of Manitoba with respect to the matters of the east side.
- **Non-Timber Forest Products** – These are all forest products, except timber, including other materials obtained from trees, such as resins and leaves, as well as any other

plant and animal products produced by the forest. In the boreal forests of Canada, there are many commercial enterprises based on non-timber forest products, such as hunting and fishing lodges, trapping operations, outfitting, remote tourist operations and youth camps

- **Precautionary Principle** – "The Precautionary Principle" is Principle No. 15 of the *1992 Rio Declaration on Environment and Development.* It states, in part: "Where there are threats of serious or irreversible damage, lack of full scientific certainty shall not be used as a reason for postponing cost-effective measures to prevent environmental degradation." Although generally accepted, since that time governments and industry have been striving to understand the implications and fine-tune the meaning and application of the principle.
- **Proponents** – Proponents are any persons, including the government, interested in proposing a plan, a significant resource allocation or a development.
- **Protected Area** – This is a parcel of land that is protected from most industrial or commercial activities to preserve its natural features or diversity. This is usually land that is designated by law, or Order in Council, as protected. In Manitoba, *The Parks Act* and other legislation allows for the creation of protected areas. Usually, only non-consumptive recreation is permitted in protected areas. Treaty and Aboriginal rights can be exercised in protected areas.
- **Protected Area Accord** – The *Protected Areas and First Nation Resource Stewardship: A Cooperative Relationship Accord* is a March 2002 accord between Poplar River, Pauingassi, Little Grand Rapids and Pikangikum to create a network of linked, protected areas on ancestral lands, and apply for its designation as a world heritage site. Since 2002, Bloodvein has also signed the accord.
- **Protected Areas Initiative (PAI)** – Manitoba's Protected Areas Initiative is a government program dedicated to building a network of protected areas that contains the tremendous biological diversity found in Manitoba's varied landscapes. Since the start of the PAI in 1990, the area of protected lands has increased from 350,000 hectares to just over 5.4 million hectares in 2004. Approximately 8.4 per cent of Manitoba's lands are protected.
- **Protected Area Network** – This refers to the total network of places and locations, protected by various means within a forest or an area, including riparian reserves, habitat reserves, parks and all other protected areas.
- **Protocols of Agreement** – The COSDI report recommended: "Manitoba work in partnership with Aboriginal peoples to develop a co-operative protocol to address the involvement of Aboriginal peoples where their land and resource use planning, significant resource allocation, development assessment and review and regulatory mechanisms, including effects assessment tools and documents, are affected." The ESPI has been instrumental in negotiating a *Memorandum of Understanding* to guide the development of a more comprehensive agreement – the *Protocols of Agreement,* specifically for the east side First Nations. The protocols will contain an official procedure or set of rules for working towards negotiation and consensus. It is a guide that parties must adhere to in attempting to establish working relationships and share management arrangements. The protocols would focus both on the process and contents of agreements that will meet the objectives of both parties.



Similarly, efforts will be made to negotiate *Protocols of Agreement* with the members of the Métis Nation resident on the east side of Lake Winnipeg. These protocols will govern the relationship between the parties with respect to resource and environmental decision-making on the east side of Lake Winnipeg, including consultation mechanisms and practices.

- **Public** – "The public", for the purposes of this report, has two uses. For notice provisions and a variety of other matters, "the public" means the entire public. In other cases, especially related to participation in effects assessment or planning, "the public" means all those persons whose interest in involvement is neither frivolous nor meant to cause difficulties.
- **Public Participation Process** – This is a formal process of public involvement as a part of a decision-making process. Public participation processes range from relatively passive opportunities for information sharing and comment, to interactive processes which ordinarily involve a defined membership, established ground rules and expectations, opportunities for interaction among participants and the provision for ongoing involvement.
- **Resources** – For the purposes of this report, resources refer to Manitoba's natural resources, air, water and land, unless otherwise indicated.
- **Stakeholder** – Although the normal legal definition relates to the holder of the "stake" during a bet or wager, the word is used quite differently in the context of public consultation processes, especially relative to government decision-making. In this context, "stakeholder" refers to a party with a "stake" or legitimate interest in the outcome of a decision to be made. The word, stakeholder, generally includes non-government entities, usually the ones that have a desire to influence the decision. Thus, stakeholders in a planning process would include the land-users, property owners, non-governmental associations, interest groups, potential developers and individuals. The parties that are governments or decision-makers are not considered stakeholders.
- **Sustainable Development** – This is defined in *The Manitoba Sustainable Development Act* as "meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs". The definition is supplemented by the inclusion in *The Manitoba Principle and Guidelines of Sustainable Development Act*.
- **Sustainable Development Components** – The use of the phrases "sustainable development components", "sustainable development", "sustainability", and "sustainability factors" in recommendations all include economic, social, environmental, human health, and cultural considerations.
- **Tenure** – Tenure refers to socially defined agreements held by individuals or groups, recognized by legal statutes or customary practice, regarding the "bundle of rights and duties" of ownership, holding, access and/or usage of a particular land unit or the associated resources there within (such as individual trees, plant species, water, minerals, etc.).
- **Terms of Reference** – This refers to instructions provided to hearing panels, such as the Clean Environment Commission, for the conduct of such activities as public hearings.

- **Traditional Ecological Knowledge** – Traditional ecological knowledge (TEK) is the knowledge base acquired by indigenous and local peoples over many hundreds of years through their direct contact with the environment. This knowledge includes an intimate and detailed knowledge of plants, animals and natural phenomena, the development and use of appropriate technologies for hunting, fishing, trapping, agriculture and forestry, and a holistic knowledge, or "world view", which parallels the scientific discipline of ecology. When TEK and western scientific knowledge are used in an appropriate and complementary fashion, the two knowledge systems provide a powerful tool for managing natural resources and achieving sustainable development. (Newsletter – Centre for Traditional Knowledge, Canadian Museum of Nature)
- **Traditional Ecological Mapping** – The use of mapping technology is being expanded to accommodate TEK. Most GIS applications have been traditionally concerned only with scientifically derived data. The spatial analytical capabilities of this technology offer great potential to aid in land-oriented decision-making. The quantifiable nature of GIS output supports First Nations positions within political negotiations and legal contexts.

  The challenges are with respect to the informal nature of traditional knowledge. There are several ways to address this issue. First of all, by its very nature GIS has the potential to be more reflective of a holistic world view than static analogue maps. The ability to layer diverse themes, variables and landscape characteristics can more closely approximate a less reductionist, more encompassing environment. The update capabilities of GIS, moreover, can incorporate dynamic conditions in the real world into the analysis.
- **UNESCO – World Natural and Cultural Heritage Site** – The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) seeks to encourage the identification, protection and preservation of cultural and natural heritage around the world, considered to be of outstanding value to humanity . This is embodied in an international treaty called the *Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage*, adopted by UNESCO in 1972. Cultural heritage refers to monuments, groups of buildings and properties with historical, aesthetic, archaeological, scientific, ethnological or anthropological value. Natural heritage refers to outstanding physical, biological and geological formations, habitats of threatened species of animals and plants, and areas with scientific, conservation or aesthetic value. UNESCO's World Heritage mission, among a lengthy list of objectives, is to encourage countries to sign the 1972 *Convention* and to ensure the protection of their natural and cultural heritage, as well as encourage States Parties to the *Convention* to nominate properties within their national territories for inclusion on the World Heritage List.
- **Watershed** – This is the area that drains to a common waterway, such as a stream, lake, estuary, wetland, or even the ocean. (EPA)
- **Wetlands** – Wetlands are areas where water covers the soil, or is present either at, or near, the surface of the soil all year or for varying periods of time during the year, including during the growing season. Water saturation (hydrology) largely determines how the soil develops and what types of plant and animal communities are living in and on the soil. Wetlands may support both aquatic and terrestrial

(both water and land) species. The prolonged presence of water creates conditions that favour the growth of specially adapted plants (hydrophytes) and promote the development of characteristic wetland (hydric) soils.

Wetlands vary widely because of regional and local differences in soils, topography, climate, hydrology, water chemistry, vegetation and other factors, including human disturbance. Indeed, wetlands are found from the tundra to the tropics and on every continent except Antarctica. (EPA)

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

East Side Planning Initiative
Room 405 – 326 Broadway
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 0S5

(204) 945-8734

Toll Free: 1-800-214-6497

Fax: (204) 948-2948
E-mail: espi@gov.mb.ca

http://www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/eastsideplan

Public Registry File: 4718.00

Printed on recycled paper
using vegetable-based ink.

MG#xxxxxxxx